Armadillo in Spanish means “little armored one.”

With very poor eyesight and hearing, armadillos rely on their strong sense of smell to hunt.

On average, armadillos live 7-10 years

On average, armadillos weigh 8-18 pounds

For refuge, armadillos dig and live in 15 feet holes

In southern regions, armadillos are nocturnal

Many armadillos carry bacterium that causes leprosy in humans

The three-banded armadillo is the only species that can roll into a ball for protection.

There are 21 different species of armadillo

The smallest species of armadillo is the pink fairy armadillo, which is about 6 inches long

Armadillos are not social creatures and spend about 18 hours a day sleeping.

90 percent of an armadillo’s diet is made up of insects and larvae, but they also eat fruit

Baby armadillos are called pups.

Armadillos can be pink, red, black, gray or yellow.

The giant armadillo can have up to 100 teeth

The screaming hairy armadillo has been known to throw its body on top of a snake, killing it with its shell

They have poor eyesight and use well developed sense of smell to find their prey.

Armadillos are great swimmers. They can hold their breath for 6 minutes when they dive.

Baby armadillos are born without bony plates. It takes a few weeks for soft skin to turn into hard armor.

Female armadillos can postpone pregnancy until the weather improves.

rmadillo shells have traditionally been used to make the back of the [*charango*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charango), an [Andean](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Andean_music) [lute](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lute) instrument.

Armadillos are one of the few animals who consume fire ants as part of their diet.

Armadillos can inflate their stomachs and intestines with air and float across water.

When an armadillos is frightened it jumps straight into the air

There are over 50 million armadillos in the US

Armadillo meat is said to taste like pork.

Once a man shot an armadillo in his backyard, and it ricocheted off it’s shell to hit his mother-in-law.

Once a man shot an armadillo and the bullet ricocheted back into his head