MountGorongosa Pygmy Chameleon (*Rhampholeon gorongosae*)

Fully grown female Mount Gorongosa pygmy chameleons are about as long as a person’s pinky finger and the males are even smaller. They lack prehensile tails. They are able to alter their body color and pattern to camouflage themselves with their surroundings.

**Fun Facts:**

1. The Mount Gorongosa pygmy chameleon is endemic to Mount Gorongosa in Mozambique.
2. Crypsis is this animal’s only defense.
3. The Mount Gorongosa pygmy chameleon was first discovered in 1971.

**Habitat**

Mount Gorongosa’s mountain rainforest

**Diet**

Termites, small insects.

**Predators**

Shrews, birds.

**Behavior**

Unlike the “nonpygmy” chameleons (Chamaeleoninae), which live high on trees and bushes, pygmy chameleons spend most of their life on the ground among leaf litter searching for food. Like other chameleons, this species uses its long, sticky tongue to capture prey. It is only at night that this species will climb up branches to avoid nocturnal predators such as shrews.

**Breeding**

Unknown

**Size**

Length: up to 6 cm

**Weight**

Unknown

**Life Span:** Unknown

**Gestation Period:** Unknown

**Average number of offspring:** Unknown