Giraffe anatomy and physiology - specific properties 'Czirjak T. Zs., Dodu Monica

Abstract

If you travel across the great savannahs of Africa, you will come upon animals of all shapes and sizes. Yet, as you look among them, none of these animals stands as tall as the giraffe. If you take a closer look, you might see the giraffe perform an amazing feat-bend down to get a drink of water. The giraffe is the world's tallest terrestrial animal, and can reach well over 12 feet in height. As the giraffe leans over to get a drink, there are some interesting features at work beneath its famously patterned skin. One of these elements is the giraffe's elongated neck. Evolutionary theory has tried for decades to explain the phenomenon of the giraffe's neck, but such conjectures cannot account for the anatomical and physiological mastery exhibited in the giraffe. William R. Corliss observed in his book, Biological Anomalies: "In sum, Nature is very anomalous or, equivalently, Nature is not yet well understood. Much remains to be done" (1995, p. v, emp. in orig.).(7)