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Description automatically generated

The Rhiswanozebtah is an extremely rare, flying creature

from the subfamily Rhinofelinae.

Rhiswanozebtahs, although uncommon, are easy to identify,

as they are a mixture of four distinct animals. They have

the head of a rhino, the body of a swan and zebra and the

tail of a cheetah. They have a wingspan of 2.8 metres and

can grow to over 5 metres in length, which means they are

the largest flying creatures since Pterodactyl dinosaurs.

Additionally, their skin tends to be covered in feathers

but as they get older, the zebra stripes become more

prominent. Their tails are covered in fur and their heads

are covered in leathery, grey skin. However, juveniles are

born completely bold and develop their fur, feathers and

colourings when they mature.

Most Rhiswanozebtahs are found across South Africa,

although some have been known to inhabit the deepest

rainforests of Venezuela. Amazingly, Rhiswanozebtahs like

to burrow and therefore make their homes underground.

They use their Rhino tusk to gouge the sun-baked soil and

tunnel deep down, to create soil cocoons to sleep in. Some

have been known to sleep in trees, but only the largest

Kapok branches can support their enormous weight.

All Rhiswanozebtahs are carnivores and only eat meat.

Interestingly, their favourite prey is the Springbok

antelope, which they descend on from great heights and

then wrestle to the ground. They have also been known to

devour many smaller mammals such as African Wild Cats

and aardvarks. Furthermore, many will guzzle gallons of

water a day and sadly, these creatures can cause huge

water shortages during the dry season.

As well as being the largest flying animal in the world, the

Rhiswanozebtah is also the most talented. The majority

can use their vocal cords to create the most beautiful

morning chorus as the sun rises. This is with the exception

of the young males. Their voices do not develop until they

are 15 years old and some explorers have reported that

their calls are high-pitched, squeaky and very unpleasant

to listen to. In addition to this, and despite their size, all

Rhiswanozebtahs are tremendously agile. They can stand

on one leg for long stretches of time, roll and flip whilst

running or flying and can balance on narrow branches and

cliff edges when surveying for prey.

For many years, scientists have been secretly tracking the

Rhiswanozebtahs in the wild and now know that there are

only approximately 625 roaming the savannahs and nesting

in rainforests. Amazingly, however, there have been rare

sightings in other parts of the world, so just maybe, the

Rhiswanozebtah will be spotted in a neighbourhood near

you in the not-so-distant future.