

ANIMAL TRACKS 😊

Take this quick and easy animal track quiz. Put together by Tyler Kent of the VHS forestry class.



bear

- 1. eat mostly berries, nuts, grasses, carrion, and insect larvae
- 2. have color vision and a keen sense of smell
- 3. are good tree climbers and swimmers
- 4. very intelligent and curious
- 5. can run up to 35 miles per hour
- 6. weigh an average of 125 to 600 pounds
- 7. go without food for up to 7 months during hibernation in northern ranges
- 8. usually give birth to 2 to 3 cubs during the mother's sleep every ***other*** year
- 9. can live over 25 years in the wild (average age in the wild is 18)
- 10. are typically shy and easily frightened



cougar

- **Description:** Cougar, Mountain Lion, Puma, Panther, they have many names. A Cougar is a large tan colored cat. They can weigh between 100 – 145lbs. They have thick fur, and very little body fat.
- **Habitat:** Cougars used to live all over North America, but they have been hunted to extinction in all but a few areas. They like to live in wild places like mountains, forests or swamps.
- **Diet:** Cougars are predators. That means they hunt other animals for food. Their favorite meal is a deer. Cougars eat up to ten pounds of meat a day. That's 40 hamburgers!

ARKive
www.arkive.org



© Staffan Widstrand / naturepl.com

wolf

- **The wolf is the largest in the wild canine family**
- **The coyote evolved separately from the wolf over 500,000 years ago**
- **The wolf has 42 teeth**
- **The wolf lives in a pack, family oriented social structure**
- **Mating season for the wolf occurs in February and March.**
- **The gestation period for the wolf is 63 days**
- **Wolf pups are born in April and May**
- **The average litter size for the wolf is 4 to 7 pups**
- **Mortality rates for wolf pups can be as high as 50%**



hawk

- Hawks can be found in forests, prairies, marshlands or open savannas. The birds vary widely in size. The smallest hawks, such as the sparrow hawk, are about the size of a robin while the rough-legged hawk, one of the largest hawks, has a length of 22 inches and a wingspan of over 55 inches. Female hawks are almost always larger than males.



eagle

- Color - Both male and female adult bald eagles have a blackish-brown back and breast; a white head, neck, and tail; and yellow feet and bill.
- Juvenile bald eagles are a mixture of brown and white. They reach full maturity in four to five years.
- Size - The female bald eagle is 35 to 37 inches, slightly larger than the male.
- Wingspan ranges from 72 to 90 inches.
- Bald eagles can fly to an altitude of 10,000 feet. During level flight, they can achieve speeds of about 30 to 35 mph.
- Bald eagles weigh from ten to fourteen pounds.
- Eagle bones are light, because they are hollow.
- The beak, talons, and feathers are made of keratin.
- Bald eagles have 7,000 feathers.
- Longevity - Wild bald eagles may live as long as thirty years.
- Bald eagles sit at the top of the food chain
- Lifting power is about 4 pounds.
- Diet - Mainly fish, but they will take advantage of carrion (dead and decaying flesh).



Trail Pattern

racoons

- Raccoons are amazingly intelligent and adaptable creatures. Although classified as a carnivore, raccoons are actually opportunistic omnivores. As humans continue to take over their habitats, raccoons have been forced to try to live among us. Often humans become irritated by raccoons rummaging through their trash or eating their pet food. They seem to forget that the raccoon is simply trying to survive in a shrinking world.
- Raccoons typically have their babies in April and May after a 63 day long gestation. However, we have received babies from early March through late August. The babies are born with their eyes and ears closed and are completely helpless. They open their eyes at around 3 weeks of age but don't start accompanying their mothers on foraging adventures until they are around 10 weeks old. Raccoons mature slower than kittens and puppies and aren't weaned until 12-16 weeks of age. They stay with their mothers well into the fall and often through their first winter.



opossum

- There are more than 60 different species of opossum, which are often called possums. The most notable is the Virginia opossum or common opossum—the only marsupial (pouched mammal) found in the United States and Canada.
- A female opossum gives birth to helpless young as tiny as honeybees. Babies immediately crawl into the mother's pouch, where they continue to develop. As they get larger, they will go in and out of the pouch and sometimes ride on the mother's back as she hunts for food. Opossums may give birth to as many as 20 babies in a litter, but fewer than half of them survive. Some never even make it as far as the pouch.

rabbit



Front Foot
3.5cm - 2.5cm



Rear Foot
6cm - 2.5cm



- Rabbits are active, playful and social. Entertaining to watch, a rabbit can be a very rewarding pet.
- Their popularity as a pet is growing. They are quiet and do not demand a lot of attention. Properly socialized rabbits are relatively calm and enjoy being around their people.
- They will allow you to hold them but lots of times they would rather not be held.
- Rabbits can be litter box trained. Indoor rabbits will love to hop around your house, however rabbits like to chew. If you allow your rabbit to roam free in your house or outside for that matter, be sure to keep things you do not wish the rabbit to chew out of his reach.
- Rabbits will chew things such as furniture, curtains and wires. You may want to look into cord protectors, found in most mail order pet supply catalogs.
- Roughly about 3-16 pounds (1.4-7.5 kg), depending on the breed. With over 50 breeds of rabbit, there are rabbits as small as guinea pigs and as big as small Spaniels and everywhere in between



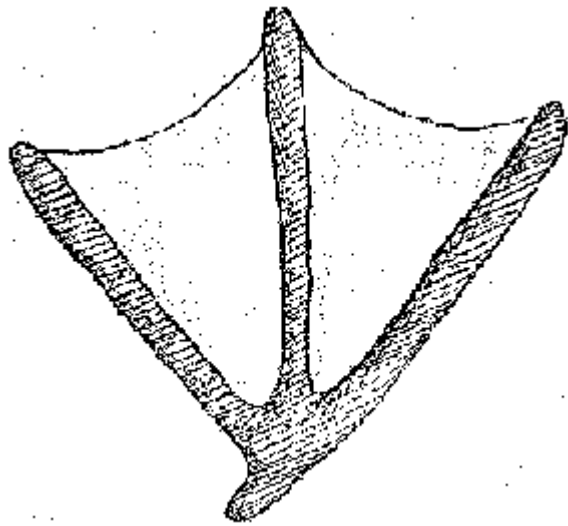
FRONT



HIND

beaver

- Beavers are known for their natural trait of building dams on rivers and streams, and building their homes (known as "lodges") in the resulting pond. Beavers also build canals to float build materials that are difficult to haul over land.² They use powerful front teeth to cut trees and other plants that they use both for building and for food. In the absence of existing ponds, beavers must construct dams before building their lodges. First they place vertical poles, then fill between the poles with a crisscross of horizontally placed branches. They fill in the gaps between the branches with a combination of weeds and mud until the dam impounds sufficient water to surround the lodge.
- They are known for their alarm signal: when startled or frightened, a swimming beaver will rapidly dive while forcefully slapping the water with its broad tail, audible over great distances above and below water. This serves as a warning to beavers in the area. Once a beaver has sounded the alarm, nearby beavers will dive and may not reemerge for some time. Beavers are slow on land, but are good swimmers, and can stay under water for as long as 15 minutes.



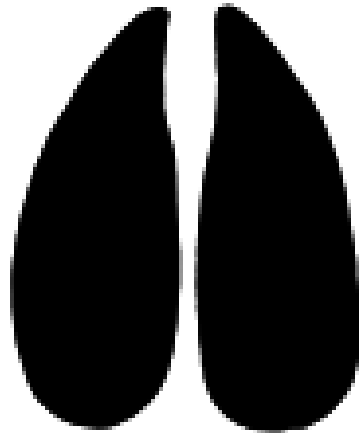
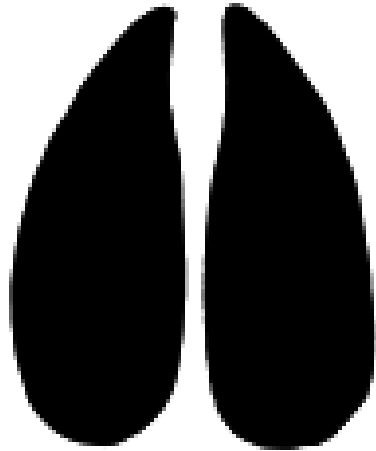
duck

- duck common name for wild and domestic waterfowl of the family Anatidae, which also includes geese and swans. It is hunted and bred for its meat, eggs, and feathers. Strictly speaking, duck refers to the female and drake to the male. Ducks are usually divided into three groups: the surface-feeding ducks—such as the mallard, wood duck, black duck, and teal—which frequent ponds, marshes, and other quiet waters; the diving ducks—such as the canvasback, scaup, scoter, eider, and redhead—found on bays, rivers, and lakes; and the fish-eating ducks, the mergansers, with slender, serrated bills, which also prefer open water. The surface feeders take wing straight up, while the divers patter along the water's surface in taking off. Ducks make long migratory flights. At the time of the postnuptial molt, the power of flight is temporarily lost, and most of the Northern Hemisphere drakes assume "eclipse" plumage similar to that of the female



elk

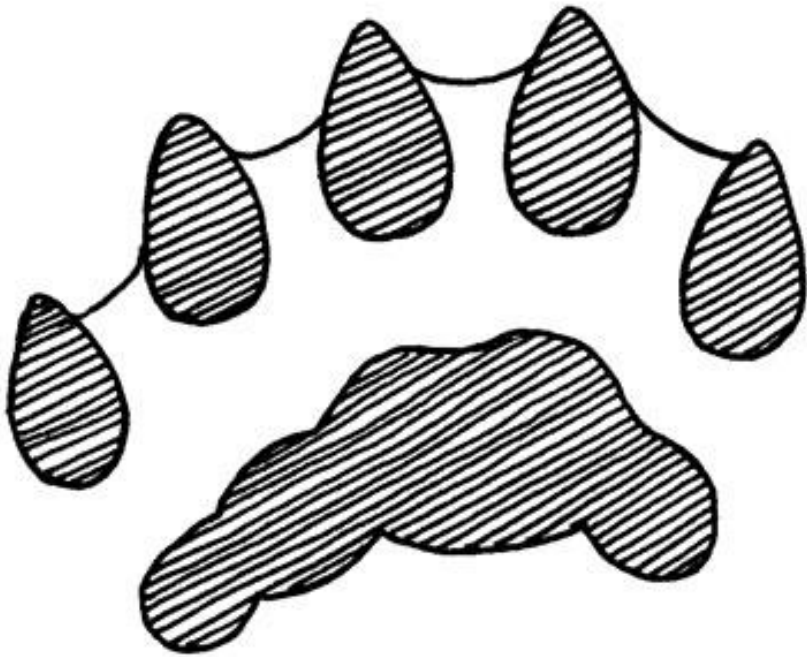
- The Roosevelt Elk, named for Theodore Roosevelt, is the largest of the four remaining North American elk subspecies. Males (bulls) average 875 pounds, but bulls weighing nearly 1300 pounds have been found in Alaska. Females (cows) average 700 pounds. These elk also have the largest antlers of all elk species, reaching lengths of up to four feet with a distinctive three-point tip, or crown and the end. The Roosevelt Elk is also much darker than other elk species, often with a dark brown or even black neck and a tan body.



©2000 Jeffrey Rubin

deer

- Deer have a great sense of hearing. They have a lot of muscles attached to their ears which allow them to turn their ears in any direction, without moving their heads. They can hear higher frequencies of sound than humans. The brown coat of the deer provides great camouflage in the woodlands. By standing still, they can go undetected by a passing predator. Fawns have a reddish-brown color covered with white spots, which help camouflage them and disappear when they are 3-4 months old. In the fall, deer will shed their summer coat and receive a much thicker winter coat.
- Deer have their eyes on the sides of their head, giving them a 310 degree view. This wide view does make it hard for deer to focus on a single point. Deer have a good night vision, which is useful in the early morning and near dusk.



River otter

- The playful North American river otter is equally at home in the water and on land.
- It makes its home in a burrow near the water's edge, and can thrive in river, lake, swamp, or estuary ecosystems.
- Otter abodes feature numerous tunnels—one of which usually allows them to come and go from the water.



nutria

- **Nutria are herbivores and consume approximately 25 percent of their weight daily.**
- **Succulent, lower portions of plants being preferred food. Roots, rhizomes, tubers, and tree bark are important during winter when the green parts of plants aren't available.**
- **Nutria also eat farm and garden crops and lawn grasses found next to water.**
- **Because their forepaws are small and dexterous, nutria can excavate soil and handle small food items.**
- **Males reach sexual maturity between 4 and 9 months, whereas, females reach sexual maturity between 3 and 9 months.**
- **With a gestation period of only 130 days, in one year, adult nutria can produce two litters and be pregnant for a third.**
- **Litter size averages 5 young.**
- **Family Structure**
- **Nutria are thought of as colonial because the same den is shared by the dominant male with two or three females and their offspring.**
- **Two to 13 individual nutria form a group. Adult males are sometimes solitary.**
- **Burrow and Den Sites**
- **Nutria will dig their own burrow, or use an abandoned burrow or lodge of a beaver or muskrat.**
- **Predators of adult nutria include coyotes, domestic dogs, and humans. Great horned owls, foxes, great blue herons, hawks, eagles, and raccoons prey on the young.**
- **In the early 1990s, 5,300 to 7,700 nutria were taken per year in Oregon, with prices for pelts ranging from \$2.00 to \$4.00 apiece.**
- **Nutria are sensitive to low temperatures. Cold winter temperatures are believed to be the main limiting factor preventing nutria from becoming established in much of eastern Washington and at high elevations in western Washington.**
- **In the wild, most nutria live less than three years**