

# ANIMAL

Antics

3<sup>RD</sup>  
Grade



Did you know  
zoos help protect  
animals like the  
Amur Leopard?

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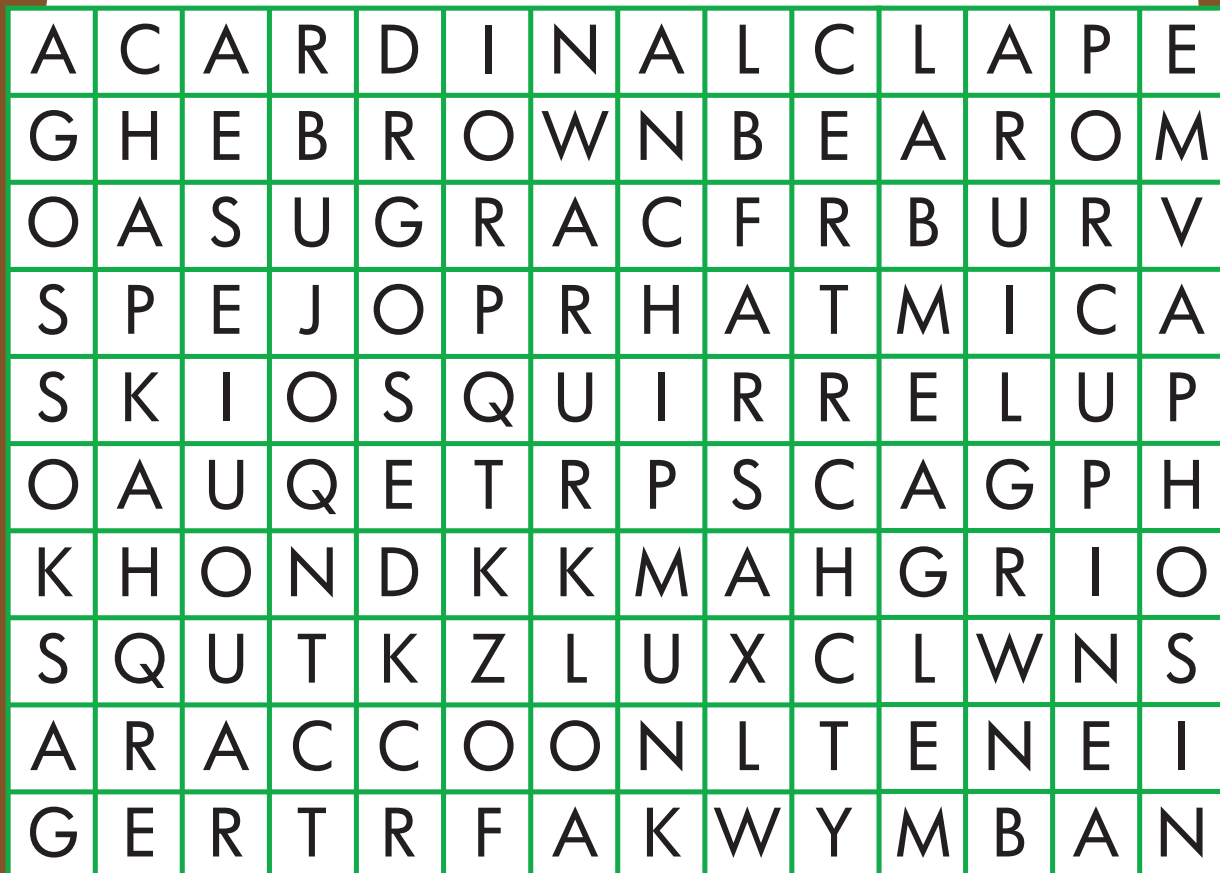
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# Forest Animals

Circle the names of the animals in the word search.



squirrel

eagle

cardinal

skunk

raccoon

chipmunk

porcupine

brown bear



# Desert Animals



Circle the names of the animals in the word search.

C	I	T	A	S	V	U	L	T	U	R	E	F	A
O	G	N	R	A	T	I	D	O	K	W	R	T	I
Y	U	G	C	E	M	L	C	V	X	E	A	O	S
R	A	T	T	L	E	S	N	A	K	E	H	R	K
A	N	E	I	M	U	T	P	E	B	R	F	T	E
B	A	K	A	W	B	W	J	I	Z	A	S	O	R
B	T	C	H	O	X	A	E	M	D	R	G	I	N
I	L	U	Q	U	M	I	C	S	K	E	T	S	O
T	V	E	Y	C	O	Y	O	T	E	Q	R	E	P
E	H	A	W	K	L	F	S	A	R	O	L	I	H



tortoise

spider

vulture

camel

rattlesnake

coyote

rabbit

hawk

iguana

# Grassland Animals

Circle the names of the animals in the word search.



elephant

lion

badger

zebra

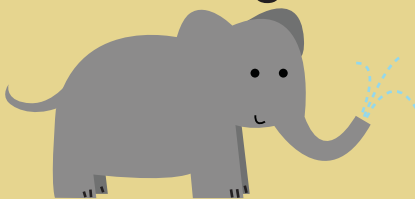
kangaroo

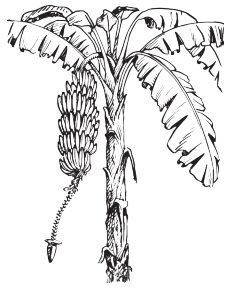
giraffe

koala

deer

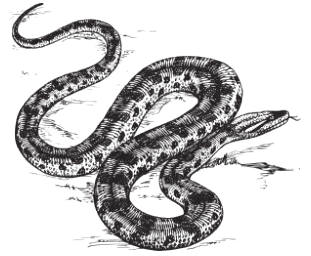
ostrich





# Animals of the Rainforest

Rainforests are dense forests with a high rainfall. They are a great place to live for many animals because there is lots of water, shelter and food, and it is always warm. Rainforests are very important because their plants make much of the Earth's oxygen, which we need to breathe. Rainforests are being destroyed every day by humans.



Anaconda

## WORD SEARCH

Words may be horizontal, vertical, backwards, or diagonal



- Spider Monkey
- Tapir
- Parrot
- Toucan
- Sloth
- Jaguar
- Anteater
- Ocelot
- Anaconda
- Harpy Eagle
- Macaw
- Hummingbird

## FUN FACTS

A Toucan's huge, colorful bill is hollow.

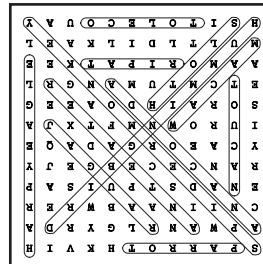
...

Jaguars do not avoid water. In fact they are wonderful swimmers.

...

A sloth moves so little that algae grows on its fur!

Word Search Answer



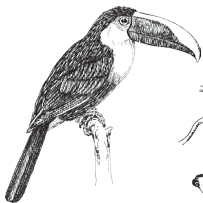
Color the Monkey

## ANIMAL MATCH UP

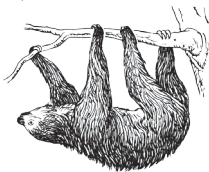
Draw a line from the rainforest animal to its name.



Toucan



Tapir



Sloth



Jaguar



Poison Arrow Frog



# Urban Animals



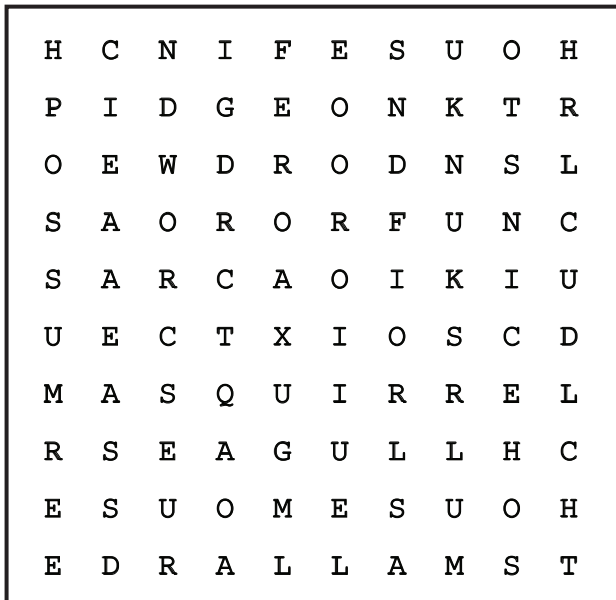
Chipmunk

Look out in your backyard or in a nearby park and you will see animals that live happily alongside humans. These animals have adapted their behavior, what they eat, and where they sleep, so they can thrive in urban areas. Some even depend on humans for their survival.



## WORD SEARCH

Words may be horizontal, vertical, backwards, or diagonal



- Crow
- Seagull
- Pidgeon
- Raccoon
- Squirrel
- Possum
- Mallard
- House Finch
- Skunk
- Fox
- House Mouse
- Rat

## FUN FACTS

When a possum is afraid, it will "play dead" until it feels safe.

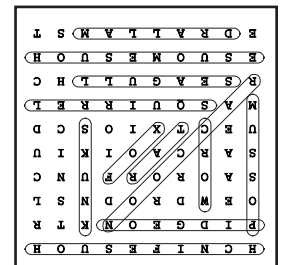
...

In the summer and spring, squirrels and chipmunks hide food for the winter.

...

A rat's teeth never stop growing.

Word Search Answer



## URBAN ANIMAL MATCH UP

Draw a line from the urban animal to its name.



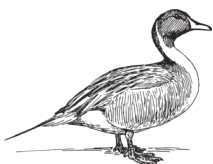
Squirrel



Raccoon



Crow



House Sparrow



Duck

Color the Possum





Coyote

# Animals of the Mountains

Animals must be tough to survive the rugged terrain of the mountains. Many animals migrate—which means travel to another area—during the harsh winters to search for food and warmer weather.



## WORD SEARCH

Words may be horizontal, vertical, backwards, or diagonal



## FUN FACTS

Mountain goat babies (called kids) can climb steep cliffs an hour after birth.

...

Mountain lions are solitary and shy animals. They rarely attack humans.

...

Bobcats are nocturnal (active at night) and are rarely seen.

Chipmunk

Pika

Coyote

Lynx

Deer

Black Bear

Pine Marten

Mountain Goat

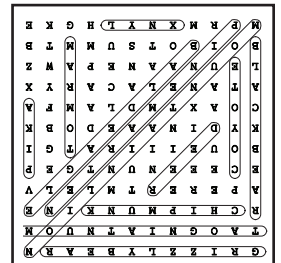
Grizzly Bear

Bald Eagle

Marmot

Mountain Lion

Word Search Answer



## MOUNTAIN ANIMAL MATCH UP

Draw a line from the mountain animal to its name.



Black Bear

Pine Marten

Mountain Goat

Mountain Lion

White-Tailed Deer

Color the Bobcat



# Animals of the Desert



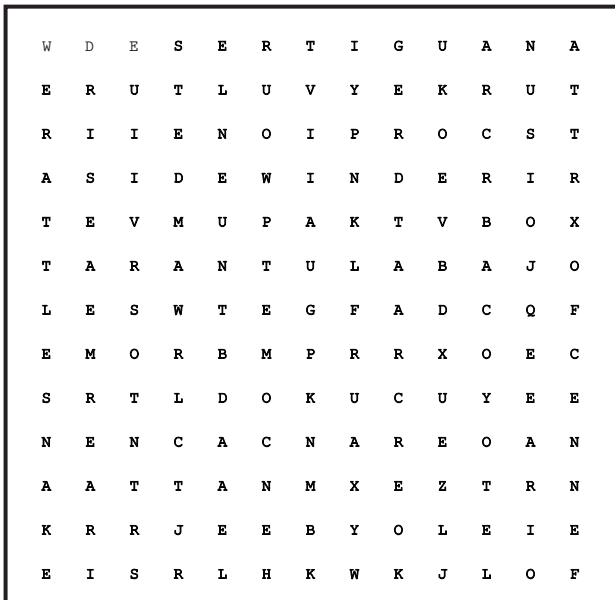
Diamondback Rattlesnake

A desert is an area that gets very little rain. There are different kinds of deserts around the world—they can be hot or cold. Animals that live in deserts have adapted to live with extreme temperature changes, very little water and a shortage of food.



## WORD SEARCH

Words may be horizontal, vertical, backwards, or diagonal



## FUN FACTS

Adult desert tortoises can live more than a year without access to water!

...

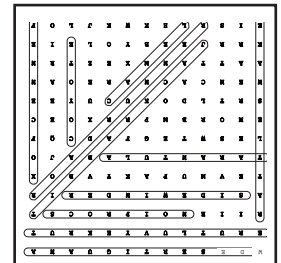
Rattlesnakes only bite humans in self defense.

...

Camels store fat in their hump, not water!

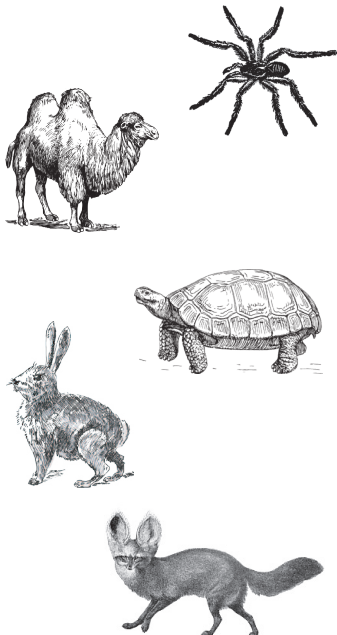
- Camel
- Roadrunner
- Coyote
- Rattlesnake
- Scorpion
- Tarantula
- Fennec Fox
- Sidewinder
- Turkey Vulture
- Jack Rabbit
- Desert Iguana

Word Search Answer



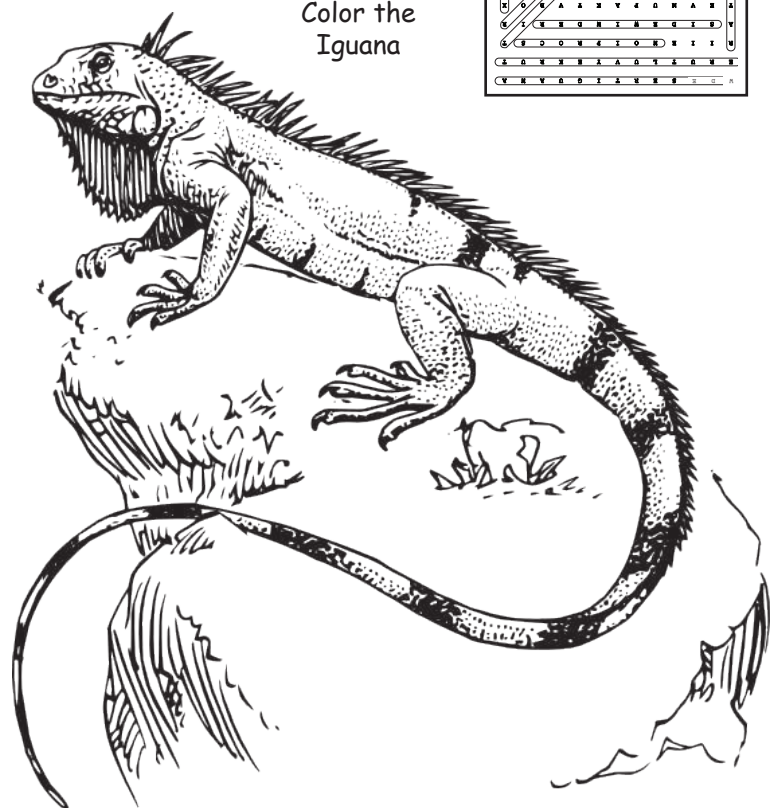
## DESERT ANIMAL MATCH UP

Draw a line from the desert animal to its name.



- Camel
- Tarantula
- Fennec Fox
- Jack Rabbit
- Desert Tortoise

Color the Iguana

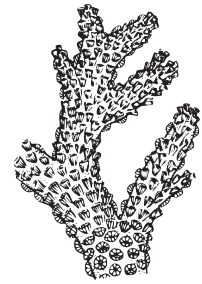


# Animals of the Sea



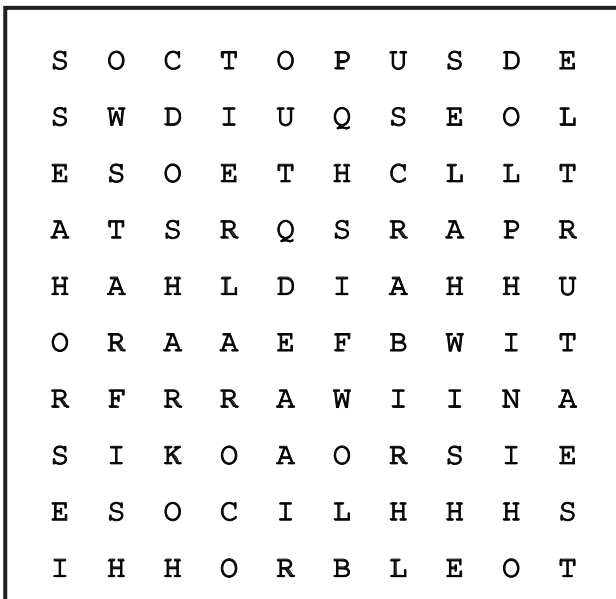
Starfish

Water covers over seventy percent of our planet, and billions of fascinating animals thrive in the oceans and seas. There is a whole world beneath the water's surface filled with weird and wonderful wildlife that many of us may never see.



## WORD SEARCH

Words may be horizontal, vertical, backwards, or diagonal



- Blowfish
- Crab
- Shark
- Seahorse
- Coral
- Starfish
- Squid
- Octopus
- Whale
- Dolphin
- Sea Turtle
- Swordfish

## FUN FACTS

The male seahorse carries the eggs, and "gives birth" to the live babies.

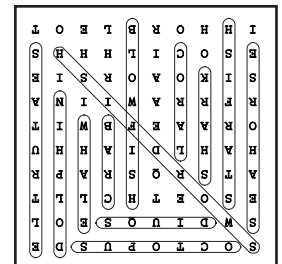
...

You are twice as likely to be struck by lightning than to be bitten by a shark.

...

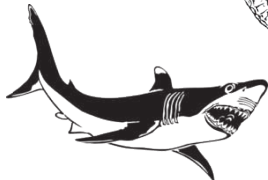
An octopus has no bones.

Word Search Answer



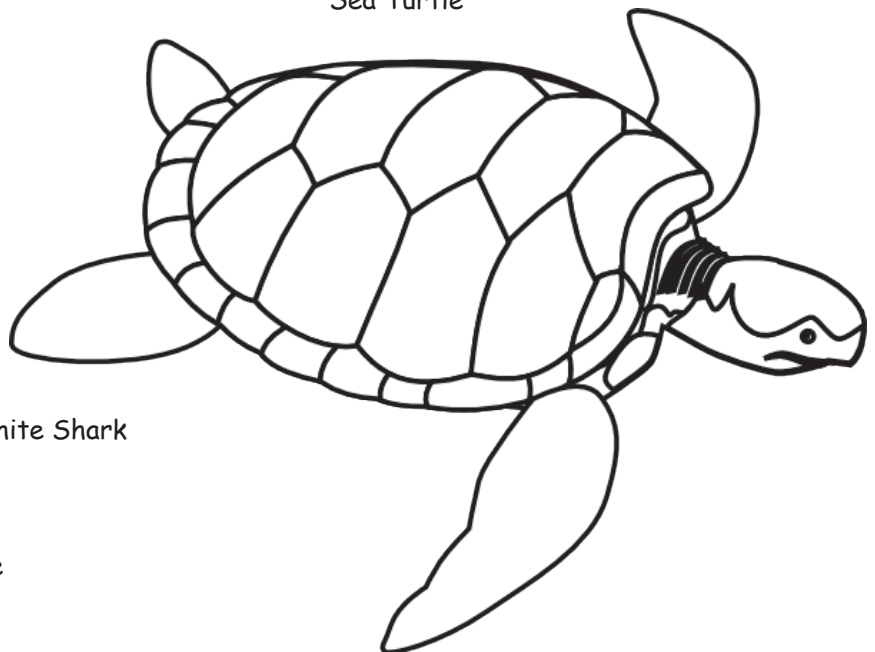
## SEA ANIMAL MATCH UP

Draw a line from the sea animal to its name.



- Orca
- Blowfish
- Eel
- Great White Shark
- Seahorse

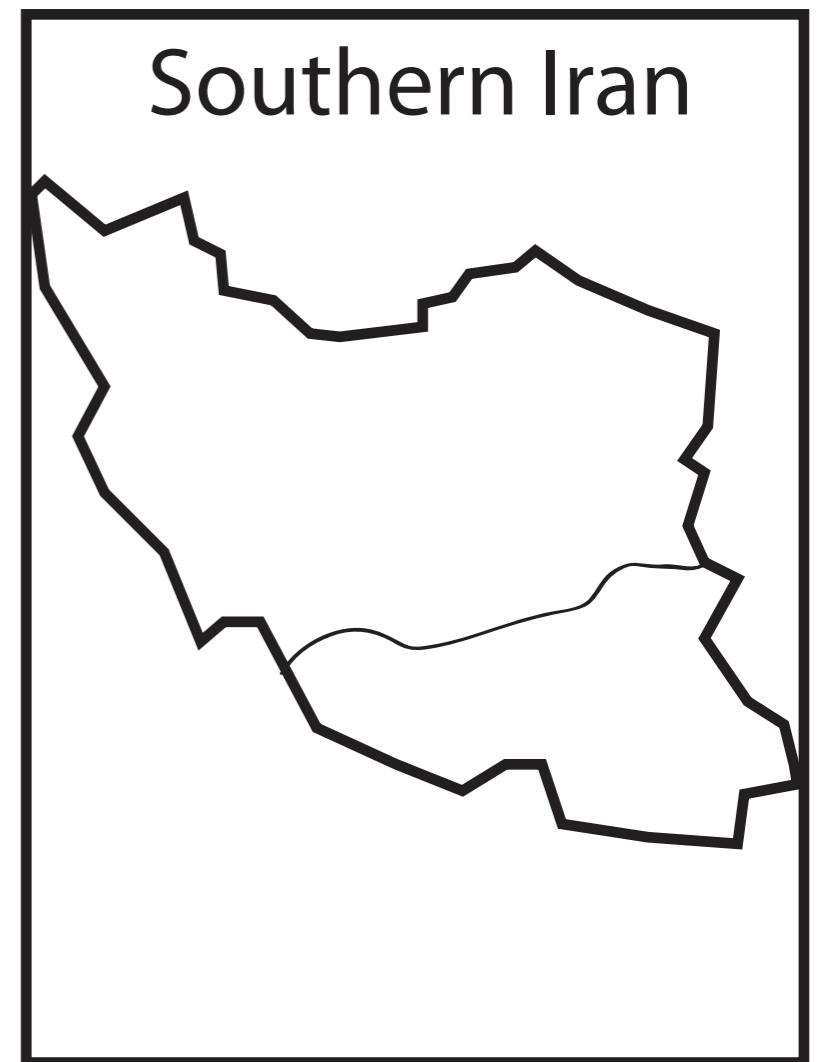
Color the Sea Turtle



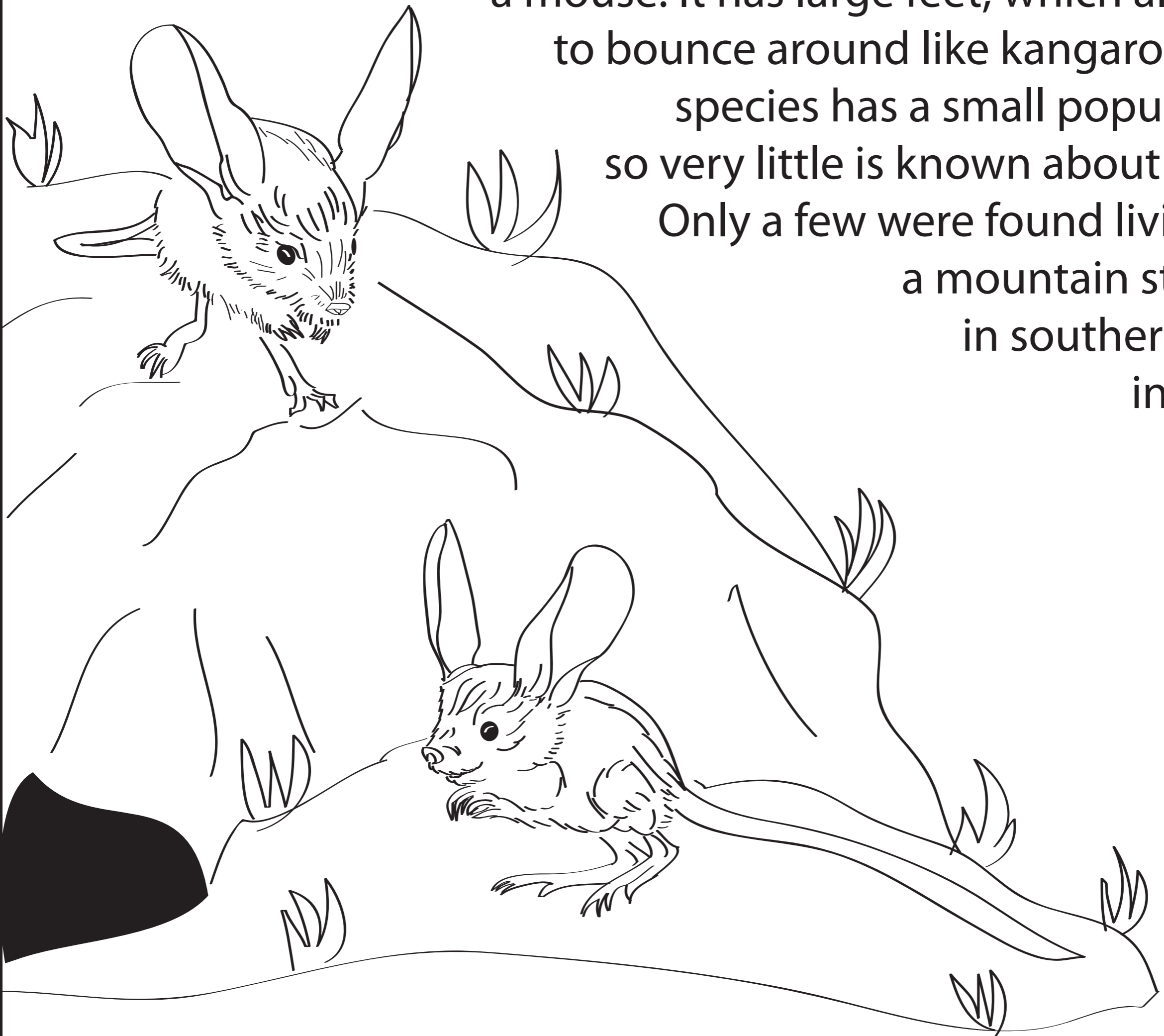
# Endangered Species

## Iranian Jerboa

*Allactaga firouzi*



The jerboa is a very small rodent that resembles a mouse. It has large feet, which allow it to bounce around like kangaroo. This species has a small population, so very little is known about them. Only a few were found living on a mountain steppe in southern Iran in 2005.

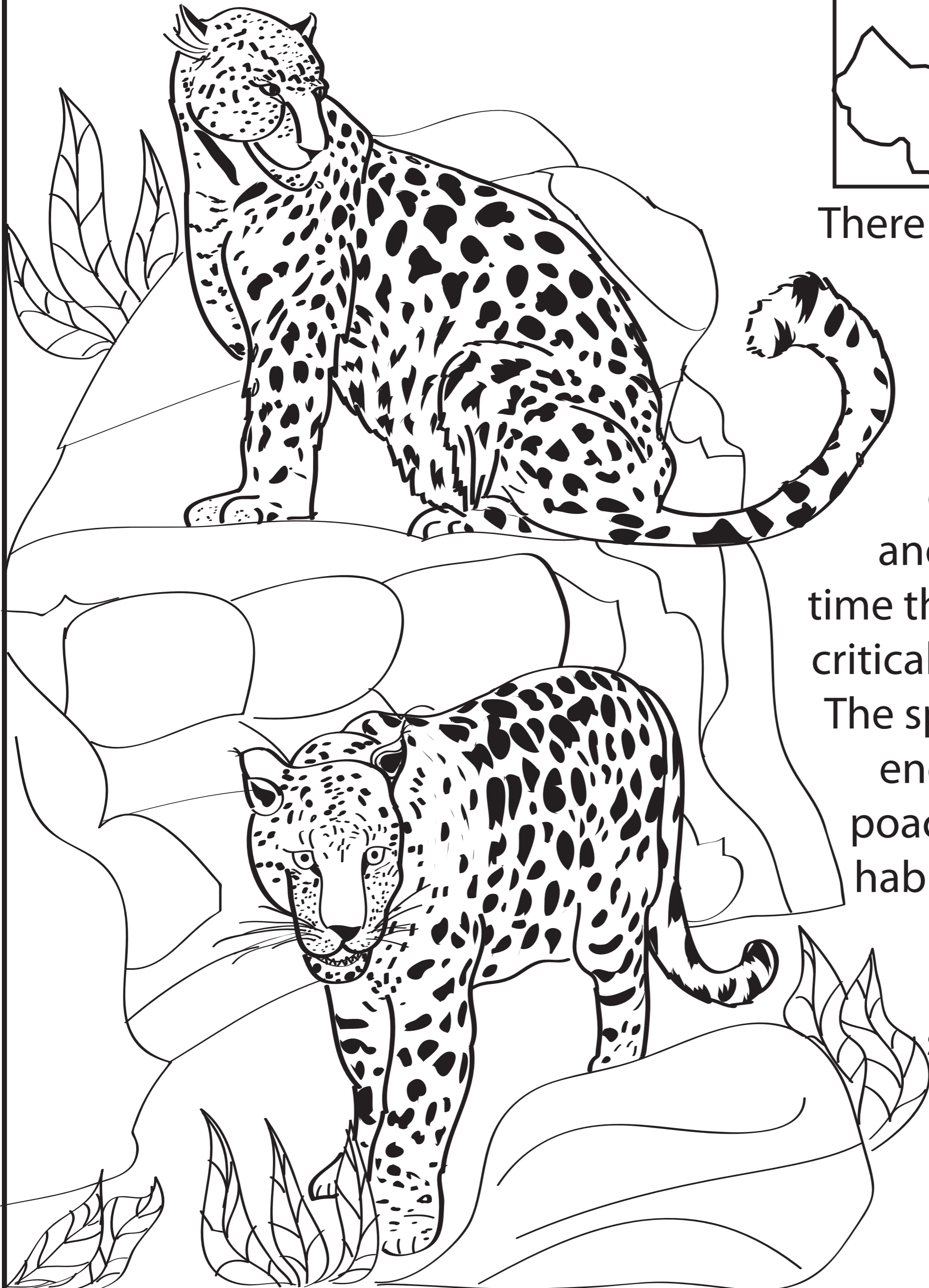
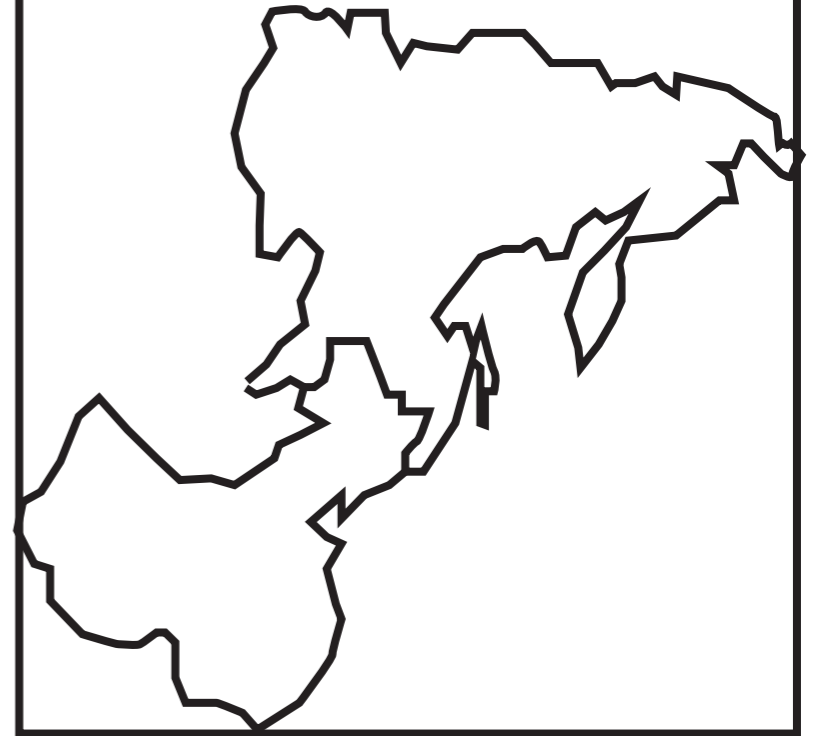


# Endangered Species

## Amur Leopard

*Panthera pardus orientalis*

Russia Far East  
&  
Northern China



There are only about 20-30 Amur leopards left in the wild, in a tiny area that connects China and Russia. At this time they are listed as critically endangered. The species is threatened by excessive poaching, and their habitat is in danger due to high levels of construction. Their numbers are increasing in captivity.

# Manatee

Manatees are also known as sea cows. They are mammals that live under the water. They rise to the surface to breathe oxygen. They live in shallow water, usually less than 7 feet deep. They eat plants, such as grass and algae.

There are three different species of manatees. One species, called the West African manatee lives in Africa. A second species, called the Amazonian manatee, lives in South America. The West Indian manatee lives mostly in the Caribbean and the coast of the Gulf of Mexico but may move north during the spring and summer.



*A manatee mother with her calf*

It is hard for scientists to know how many West Indian manatees there are. They estimate between 2,000 to 5,000. The West Indian manatee has been listed as an endangered species. This means that the population is so low that the West Indian manatee may become extinct. Many die because of accidents with ships or other human causes, such as pollution. Federal and state laws protect the manatee. Scientists are working to find ways to help the manatee survive.

## Fill in the Blank

How many species of manatees are there?

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Where does the West Indian manatee mostly live?

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What does "endangered species" mean?

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What do manatees eat?

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## Manatee Facts

- The manatee's closest relative in the animal world is the elephant and hyrax.
- Manatees average over 9 feet in length and weigh between 800 to 1200 pounds.
- Manatees may live 60 years or more.



# Buffalo



The buffalo is also known as the American bison. It is the largest land mammal in North America.

Buffalo live in herds, or groups, and travel from place to place looking for grass to eat. The buffalo was a major source of food for the Native Americans who lived on the Great Plains.

Millions of these animals once lived across most of North America. The buffalo was almost extinct after human hunting in the 1800s.

Conservation methods by ranchers and the government beginning in 1899 have saved the buffalo from extinction. Today, there are around 400,000 buffalo on public lands, private ranches and zoos.



## Buffalo Facts

The average buffalo is about 5-6 feet tall at the shoulder and can weigh up to 2,200 pounds.

A buffalo can run 35-40 miles an hour.

Buffalo like to roll on the ground, often in the same spot as other buffaloes. This creates a hole in the ground, called a buffalo wallow.



## Tell a Story

This picture shows a wolf pack which has surrounded a buffalo. Write a story about what happens next. Write the story either as one of the wolves or as the buffalo.



# California Condor

The California condor is a type of vulture, which means it eats the meat of dead animals. The condor lives in the U.S. states of California, Utah and Arizona. There are also condors in the Mexican state of Baja California. It is the largest land bird in North America.

The population of condors dropped very low in the 20th century. In 1987 there were just 22 birds left living in the wild. As a way to help the condor survive, the California Condor Recovery Plan captured all the wild birds and placed them in zoos. There the condors were protected and could have baby chicks. When the chicks were grown, they would be returned to the wild. The program was successful and today there are almost 400 California condors. Over 180 of these live in the wild.



*A mother condor lays on a baby chick. She wears a tag so scientists can follow her.*



## About the California Condor

- The condor has a wingspan, or length of the wings from tip to tip, of over 9 feet.
- Condors can fly fast, sometimes up to 55 miles per hour.
- Condors may live up to 60 years.

## Tell a Story

Imagine you are this condor, flying in the sky. Write a story about where you are going and what you see as you fly.



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# Grizzly Bear

The grizzly bear is a type of brown bear found in North America. Grizzly bears once lived over much of the continent, from the Arctic to Mexico. Today the grizzly lives only in Canada, and the U.S. states of Alaska, Idaho, Washington, Wyoming and Montana.

The word “grizzly” comes from the description of the gray hair in the bear’s fur. Except for mother grizzly bears with cubs, the grizzly lives its life alone.

Grizzly bears eat a wide variety of food. They eat meat and will kill animals such as deer or elk. They like fish, particularly salmon. They also eat nuts, berries and insects.

There are about 55,000 grizzly bears in North American today. Because the grizzly bear population has dropped to a low level, the governments of the United States and Canada have started programs to increase the number of the bears.



## Grizzly Bear Facts

- An adult grizzly weighs between 290 to 790 pounds. A grizzly cub weighs less than 1 pound when it’s born.
- The average adult grizzly bear is over 8 feet tall.
- Unlike black bears, grizzly bears have a hump on their back.



## Tell a Story

Imagine you are one of these grizzly bear cubs. Your mother has told you and your brother to stay in one place while she hunts. She is late coming back and both of you are hungry. Write a story about what you and your brother do next.



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# The Silverback Gorilla

The silverback gorilla is an adult male gorilla. He is called silverback because of the silver hair that grows on his back after he has become an adult.

## Family

Gorillas live in a family group called a troop. Each troop is lead by one silverback gorilla. There are also adult female gorillas and their babies in the troop.

## About Gorillas

There are two types, or species of gorillas:

- The eastern gorilla lives in east central Africa
- The western gorilla lives in west central Africa.

Both species are classified as endangered.



## Gorilla Food

Gorillas eat mostly leaves, tree shoots and some fruit. The Eastern Gorilla also eats insects, such as ants.

## Silverback Size

A silverback gorilla may be as tall as 5 feet 9 inches and weigh over 400 pounds.



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## Tell a Story

Imagine you are a silverback gorilla who lives in a zoo. Write a story about what you would do when the zoo visitors come to see you.

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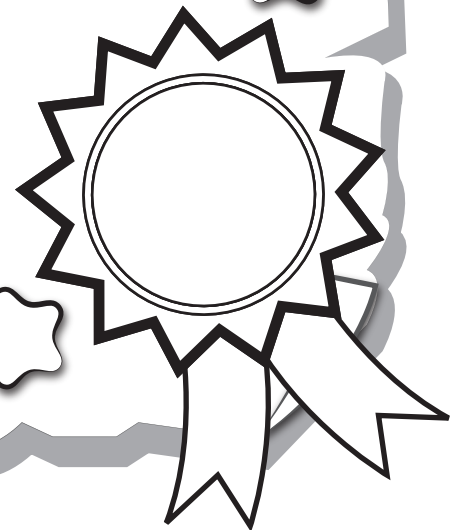
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Great job!

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# Answer Sheets

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## **Animal Antics**

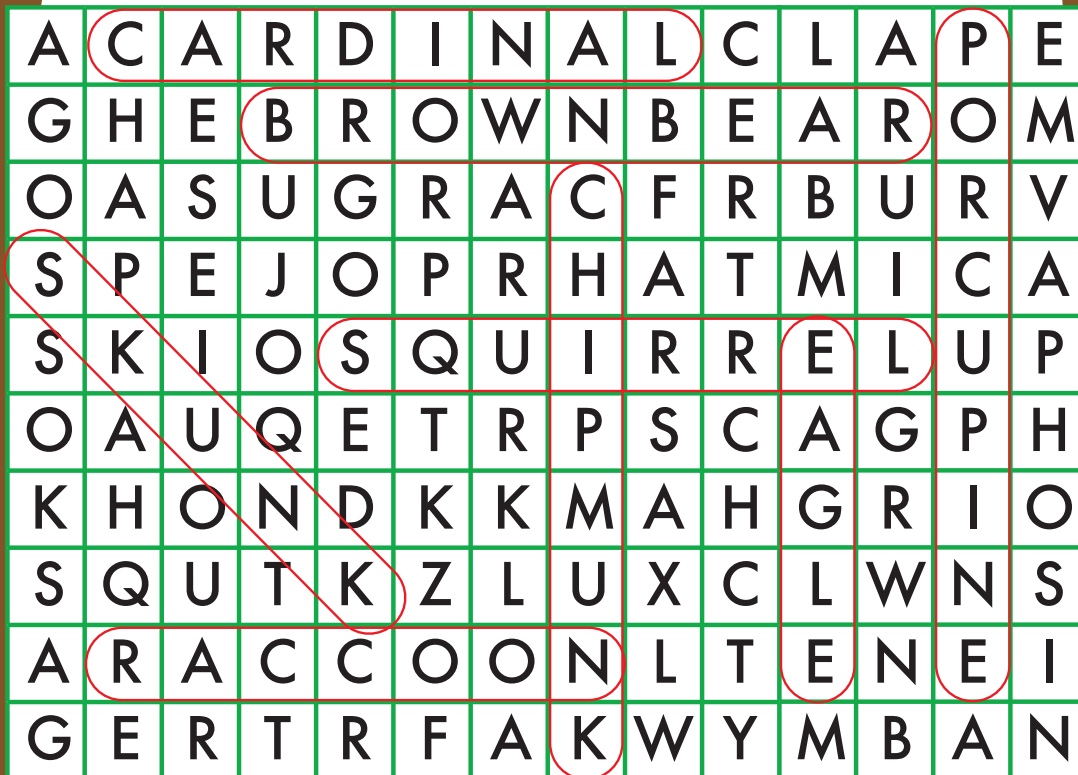
Forest Animals Word Search  
Desert Animals Word Search  
Grassland Animals Word Search  
Manatee Facts

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# Answer Sheet

## Forest Animals

Circle the names of the animals in the word search.



squirrel

cardinal

raccoon

porcupine

eagle

skunk

chipmunk

brown bear



# Answer Sheet

## Desert Animals



Circle the names of the animals in the word search.



tortoise

spider

vulture

camel

rattlesnake

coyote

rabbit

hawk

iguana

# Answer Sheet

## Grassland Animals

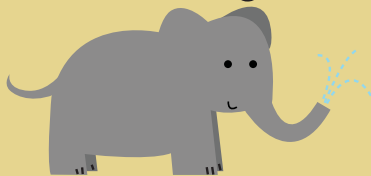
Circle the names of the animals in the word search.



elephant

lion

badger



zebra

kangaroo

giraffe

koala

deer

ostrich

# Answer Sheet

## Manatee

Manatees are also known as sea cows. They are mammals that live under the water. They rise to the surface to breathe oxygen. They live in shallow water, usually less than 7 feet deep. They eat plants, such as grass and algae.

There are three different species of manatees. One species, called the West African manatee, lives in Africa. A second species, called the Amazonian manatee, lives in South America. The West Indian manatee lives mostly in the Caribbean and the coast of the Gulf of Mexico but may move north during the spring and summer.



*A manatee mother with her calf*

It is hard for scientists to know how many West Indian manatees there are. They estimate between 2,000 to 5,000. The West Indian manatee has been listed as an endangered species. This means that the population is so low that the West Indian manatee may become extinct. Many die because of accidents with ships or other human causes, such as pollution. Federal and state laws protect the manatee. Scientists are working to find ways to help the manatee survive.

### Fill in the Blank

How many species of manatees are there?

**3**

Where does the West Indian manatee mostly live?

**The Caribbean and coast of the Gulf of Mexico**

What does "endangered species" mean?

**The population is low and it may become extinct.**

What do manatees eat?

**Plants, such as grass and algae**

### Manatee Facts

- The manatee's closest relative in the animal world is the elephant and hyrax.
- Manatees average over 9 feet in length and weigh between 800 to 1200 pounds.
- Manatees may live 60 years or more.

