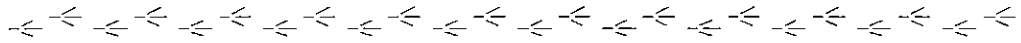


ANSWERS TO HUNTING FOR NATURAL TREASURES (2ND/3RD GRADE ACTIVITY)

- 1. Find a nonliving object in the exhibit with the waterfall.**
Nonliving items would include rocks, soil, water, etc.
- 2. Find a once-living object in the Bird's of Prey exhibit (east of zoo entrance).**
Once living objects would include wood used as part of the hawks' or eagle's shelter or perching structures. It would also include materials that the red-tailed hawks are using for nesting.
- 3. Name a resource in the Mule Deer exhibit that living things need to survive.**
Food is usually out of sight in this exhibit but students could refer to the shelter or water containers.
- 4. Find a zoo bird that has a spoon-shaped bill.**
Ducks, geese and swans all have a spoon-shaped bill.
- 5. Name a zoo bird in which males have a spur on the back of both legs.**
Males of both the wild turkey and peafowl have spurs used for fighting or defense.
- 6. Name a zoo bird with talons on its feet for grasping prey.**
All the birds of prey (hawks and eagle) have talons.
- 7. Find a zoo animal that hatches from an egg, has webbed feet, and has a white "chin strap".**
Canada geese have all of these characteristics.
- 8. Where is the marmot's shelter in the Bighorn Sheep exhibit?**
The marmots make their shelter under the rock field in the exhibit.
- 9. Name a zoo animal that spends part of the year in the Arctic tundra.**
Both the Canada goose and the snow goose migrate to the Arctic tundra each year.
- 10. Name a zoo animal that is not native to North America.**
Both the peafowl and the mute swan are exotic species. The peafowl is native to India and Sri Lanka and was brought here by European settlers. The mute swan is native to Europe and Asia. It was brought to the New York area in the 1800's.
- 11. Find a zoo animal that hibernates (clue: it is not a bear).**
Although they stay in their den most of the winter, bears are not true hibernators. The yellow-bellied marmot does hibernate, a behavior that allows it to survive winter temperatures and conditions.
- 12. Name a hooved animal that migrates from high areas to low areas.**
Pronghorns, mountain goats, bighorn sheep, mule deer, white-tailed deer and elk all migrate from higher elevations in the summer to lower elevations in the winter.

- 13. Name a zoo animal whose large ears help it cool down on hot days.**
The large ears of the mule deer have a lot of surface area. They lose heat through their ears like humans lose heat through an uncovered head.
- 14. Name a hooved, wild zoo animal in which both males and females have horns.**
Both males and females have horns in Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep, mountain goats, pronghorns and bison.
- 15. Name an animal in the exhibit with the bison that does not give birth to live young.**
You could name the snow goose and any visiting Canada geese, sandhill cranes, ducks or other birds in the exhibit. Birds lay eggs rather than giving birth to live young. Mammals such as bison, pronghorn, white-tailed deer and American elk all give birth to live young.
- 16. Name a zoo animal that uses antlers for courtship and defense.**
Mule deer, white-tailed deer, and American elk males all use their antlers for courtship and defense. Females of these species do not grow antlers.
- 17. Name a zoo animal that uses quills for defense.**
The porcupine, of course. Porcupines are primarily nocturnal (active at night) so he may have been sleeping while you were here.
- 18. Name a zoo animal whose large feet help it walk on snow.**
The Canada lynx has large feet for its size. They are like built-in snowshoes.
- 19. Name a large zoo animal whose claws are used for climbing trees.**
Unlike adult grizzly bears, the American black bear is able to climb trees because of its shorter claws and smaller size. Grizzly bear adults are too large and their claws too long for serious tree climbing.
- 20. Name a zoo animal that uses deer as a food item (prey).**
The mountain lion, bobcat, Canada lynx, coyote, grizzly bear and American black bear would all prey on deer under the right circumstances (stage of hunger, size of deer, etc.).
- 21. Name a zoo animal that is a carnivore.**
Carnivores are strictly meat eaters. Carnivores at the zoo include all three hawks, the golden eagle, mountain lion, Canada lynx, bobcat, American badger. The coyote is primarily a carnivore but will also eat plants and berries.
- 22. Name a zoo animal that eats plants and spends it time on rocky mountain slopes.**
Both the Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep and the mountain goat are herbivores (plant eaters) and spend their time high up on rocky mountain slopes.
- 23. Find a living thing that cannot move in the Coyote Exhibit.**
Grasses, shrubs and trees are living things found in the coyote exhibit. Plants do not have structures, such as muscles or legs, that allow them to move.
- 24. Name a zoo animal that has claws adapted for digging food or burrows.**
The American badger uses its claws to dig burrows and for finding insects or small animals hiding in the ground.
- 25. Name a zoo animal that is a member of the cat family and has a long tail that helps it balance when making quick turns.**
The mountain lion has a very long tail and is a wild relative of the domestic cat.



ANSWERS TO TRACK DETECTIVES (2nd/3rd grade activity)

Have you ever looked at the tracks left behind when someone walks in mud, in the snow, or with wet shoes on a dry sidewalk? Those tracks say "someone passed this way" and provide clues about who that someone was. You may be able to tell whether that "someone" was barefoot or wearing shoes, big or small, or whether they were walking or running. Knowing about the kind of tracks different animals make can help you become a **Track Detective**. Your job in this activity is to decide what animal made the tracks shown. Read the word clues provided and look at the track clues carefully. As you tour the zoo, find the animal(s) responsible for making that track. Hint: Additional clues may be provided on animal information signs throughout the zoo.

Animal A

I am about the same height as you but at 100-125 lbs., I probably weigh more. I have a white belly and rump and short horns. I can run very fast but cannot jump very high.

What am I?

Pronghorn

Animal B

I am a member of the dog family. When hunting for prey, I behave much like a cat. I weigh about as much as a housecat but look bigger because I have so much fur. I also have a white tip on my tail.

What am I?

Red fox

Animal C

Unlike what you might have heard about me, I am very shy and try to avoid humans. My long tail helps me change directions quickly when I hunt for my favorite food: deer. I purr like a house cat but am much bigger!

What am I?

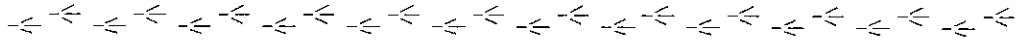
Mountain lion

Animal D

The underside of my bushy tail is white. I lift my tail when I run or when I sense danger. It works like a warning flag to other animals in my group. I have antlers that I shed once each year. The females in my group do not grow antlers.

What am I?

White-tailed deer



Animal E

Like the pet dog you may have at home, I run on my toes. I am similar to pet dogs in other ways too because we share the same ancestors. I hunt mostly at night. My large ears help me hear very small sounds. My keen hearing and sense of smell help me locate mice, one of my favorite foods, under the snow.

What am I?

Coyote

Animal F

My body is covered with feathers rather than fur. I have keen eyesight and can spot moving prey from great heights. My feet are perfect for grasping and holding prey.

What am I?

Any of the hawks or the golden eagle

Animal G

I am the largest animal at the zoo and the largest land mammal in North America. I weigh between 1,000 and 2000 lbs. Imagine how much grass I must eat in order to keep my weight up!

What am I?

Bison

Animal H

With my white fur and shiny black hooves and horns, you might think that I look dressed-up. Don't let my looks fool you! My thick fur helps me stay warm in my natural habitat high in the mountains. My hooves and short, muscular legs help me climb.

What am I?

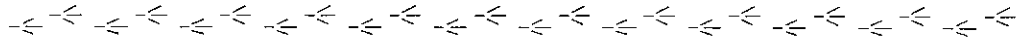
Mountain goat

Animal I

You may not see me during your visit because I am nocturnal. That means that I am active at night and sleep during the day. I like to dig burrows in the ground. My long claws help me do that. The loose skin on my body helps me wiggle through tunnels.

What am I?

American badger



Animal J

Like my neighbor, I prefer rugged mountain areas. My thick, curled horns are used for protection and in head-banging games with members of my herd. All that weight on my head requires a double layer of bone in my skull and extra thick skin on my face.

What am I?

Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep

Animal K

I walk on four legs but, just like you, I have five toes on all of my feet. See the points at the tips of my tracks. My claws make them. I use my claws for gathering food, climbing trees and protecting myself. You may have a stuffed animal at home that looks like me.

What am I?

American black bear

Animal L

I am a native North American. I am rather heavy for a bird but am still a strong flyer over short distances. I like to roost in the trees. I put on quite a display to show off in front of the females of my species.

What am I?

Wild turkey

Animal M

The zoo is along my migration route so you will frequently see me here. My tracks should tell you where to look for me. My white cheek patches are another clue to my identity.

What am I?

Canada goose

Animal N

I am at the zoo because I choose to live here. In fact, some of my relatives had to be moved because there were so many of us here. I am one of Idaho's largest rodents but I don't climb much. I like living amongst the rocks in and around the zoo. Have you seen me sunning or running on the rocks?

What am I?

Yellow-bellied marmot