



## Wilderness Trek Scavenger Hunt Answers: Grades 9-12

1. Mexican grey wolves hunt in packs, which allows them to work together to attack from different angles to cut off and target one elk or deer in a herd. They have high endurance to keep up a long and fast chase. They have strong jaws, to clamp onto an elk or deer and take it down.
2. Alpha wolves often demonstrate dominance through body language: tall posture, direct eye contact, and raised ears and tail. If this is not enough for the subordinate member to submit, the alpha may curl his/her lip to reveal teeth, snarl, and/or lower the ears.
3. Beavers have flat, thick tails that are used to propel them through the water like a boat's rudder. Their hind feet are webbed to assist in swimming. Their fur is thick and oily, which makes it water resistant. This keeps beavers warm in cold water.
4. Animals that are listed as endangered can be legally protected: it becomes illegal to hunt, kill, or interfere with these animals. An endangered status also allows for captive breeding programs, reintroduction efforts, and even grants and funds for conservation programs. Zoos can support endangered animals by funding and participating in captive breeding programs, by supporting conservation organizations, by building support for wildlife protection laws, and by educating and inspiring visitors to take action.
5. Without wolves to prey on reindeer, reindeer populations would grow too large. Soon there would be too many reindeer and not enough food. Competition for vegetation between reindeer would be high and soon reindeer would die of starvation. Too many reindeer eating vegetation would leave less vegetation for other herbivores like rabbits, who might also starve.
6. Grizzly bears are omnivores. They eat meat when it is available, but also often consume plants. They like salmon and sometimes eat carrion, or dead animal carcasses. Unlike tigers or wolves, for example, that kill and eat large animals, grizzly bears do not need canines to tear through meat. Their teeth are more adapted to eating a variety of plants, fruits, and fish.
7. Our grizzly bears do not hibernate because unlike in the wild, they are consistently fed nutritious food. Also, our bears receive enrichment every day which keeps them active.
8. Seals are generally smaller and have shorter flippers; the short flippers makes it harder for them to move on land. Seals have no ear flaps, only ear holes. Sea lions are larger and have longer flippers. They can use their flippers to "walk" on land. Sea lions have small, external ear flaps.
9. It is important to know where these animals live to know where to implement conservation and protection programs. It is important to know how many bears live in South America to know whether our conservation efforts increase their numbers or if they continue to decrease.
10. Tigers hunt and live alone because prey is scarce and hard to catch. If they lived in groups like lions, they would not be able to catch enough prey to feed them all. Living alone means each tiger gets to eat its prey without having to share.