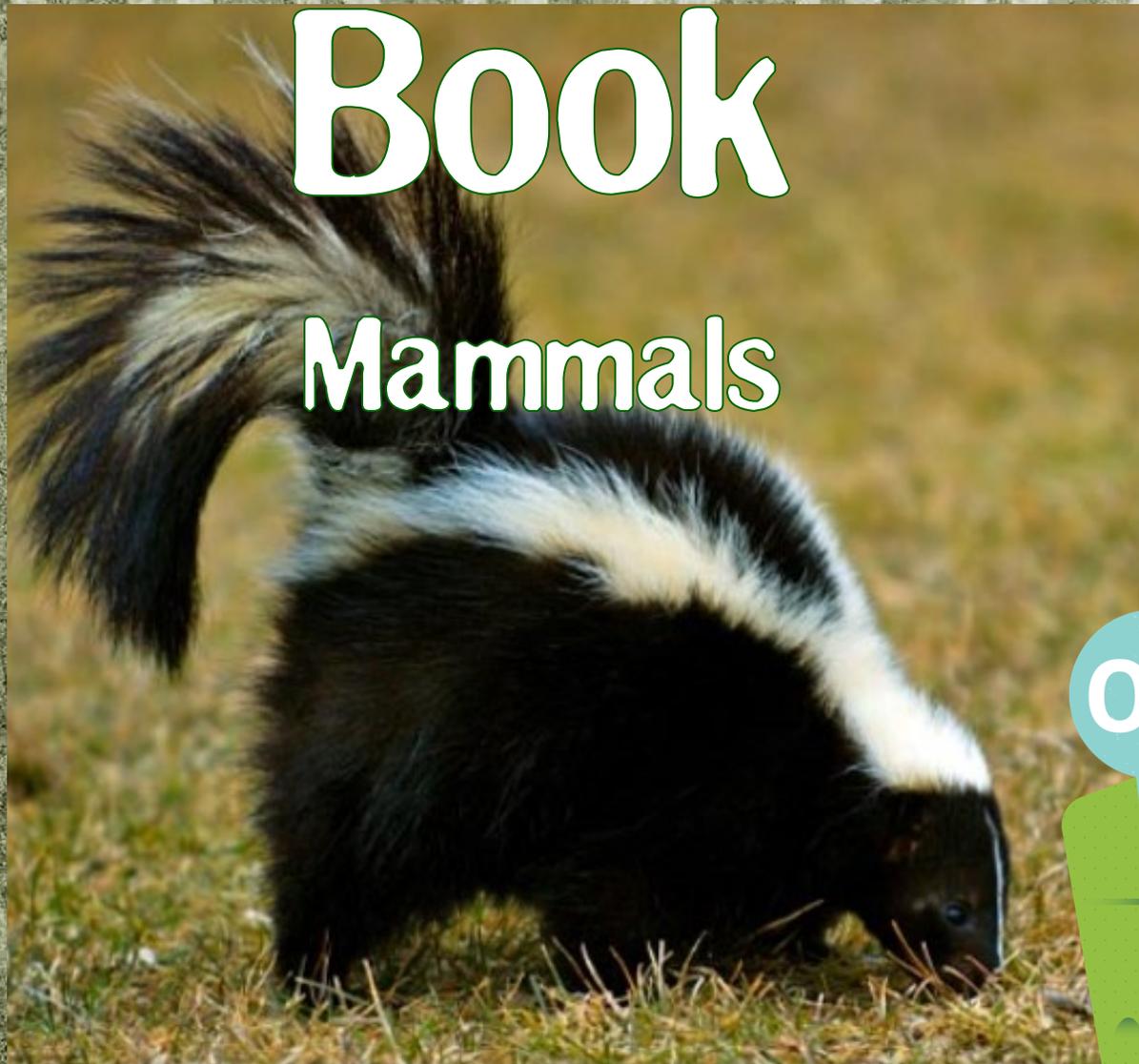


Ohio Animals Fact



Book

Mammals

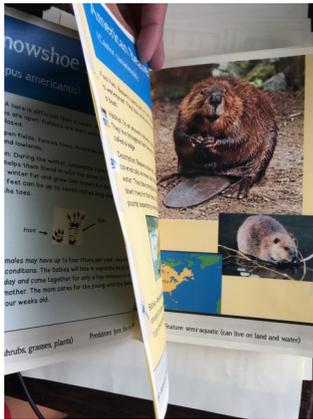


Notes about this product:

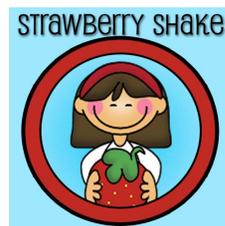
Thank you for purchasing! I hope you find this product helpful. I know I always wanted to focus on Ohio animals when teaching science. Here are directions for assembling the book:

1. Print out all the pages just for the book (pgs. 3-8 of this product).
2. Fold all of them in half so the print is on the inside.
3. Fold the cover around all of the pages.
4. Staple as close the fold/crease as possible.
5. Using a few pieces of tape, tape together the right side of the hare page and the left side of the beaver page. This pattern will continue with the rest of the pages.

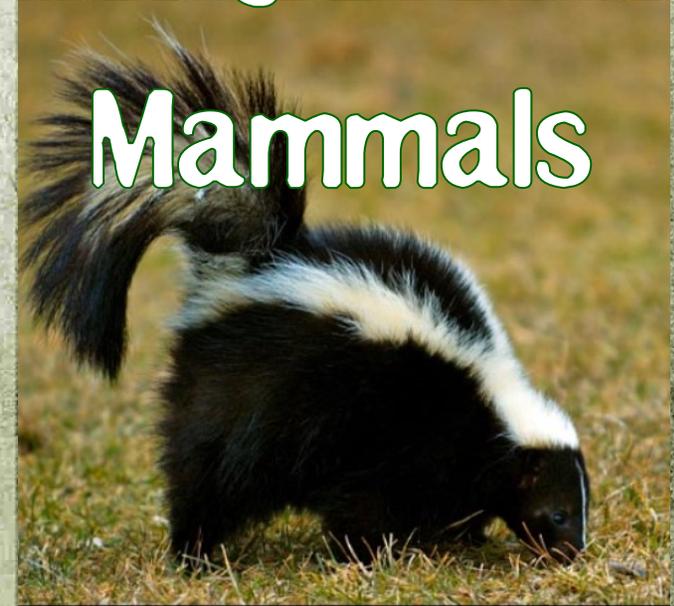
Make sure to point out the symbols for each section of information. This would be a great opportunity to integrate text features into your science lesson or vice versa. Discuss the maps and diagrams on each page. It is important that kids learn how to analyze a diagram and figure out the information all on their own. Let me know if you have any questions about the product, and I will be happy to help!



Credits:



Ohio Animals Fact Book



Mammals



Snowshoe Hare

(*Lepus americanus*)

 **Fast fact:** A hare is different than a rabbit. A hare is born with fur and its eyes are open. Rabbits are born without hair and their eyes are closed.

 **Habitat:** Open fields, fences rows, riverside thickets, cedar bogs, swamps, and lowlands.

 **Description:** During the winter, snowshoe hares have a thick, white coat that helps them blend in with the snow. In the spring they shed their winter fur and grow thin brown fur for the summer. Their hind feet can be up to seven inches long and have webbing between the toes.



 **Babies:** Females may have up to four litters per year, depending on outside conditions. The babies will hide in separate locations during the day and come together for only a few minutes to nurse from their mother. The mom cares for the young until the babies are about four weeks old.



Diet: herbivore (shrubs, grasses, plants)

Predators: lynx, fox, or coyote

Fantastic Feature: nimble and fast in order to escape predators

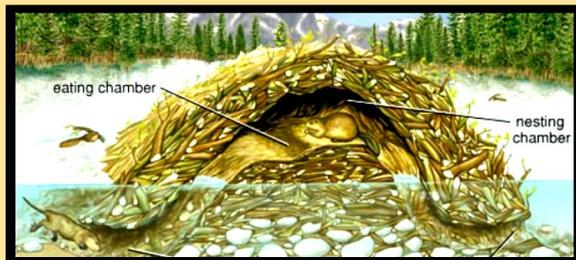
American Beaver

(*Castor canadensis*)

 **Fast fact:** Beavers spend part of their time in the water. Their fur is waterproof. They have a flattened tail that acts like a rudder on a boat!

 **Habitat:** In an around freshwater ponds, lakes, rivers, or swamps. They live throughout North America. Their dome-shaped home is called a lodge.

 **Description:** Beavers have thick, long fur and flattened, scale-covered tails. An inner layer enables them to stay warm in cool water. They have strong teeth and powerful jaws in order to cut down trees for their homes. They can grow to weigh up to 70 pounds depending on where they live.



 **Babies:** American Beavers give birth to one to four kits that weigh around 10 ounces. When they are 2 years old, they leave the lodge to go off and make their own.



Diet: omnivore (plants, bark, fish)

Predators: bears, wolves, bobcats

Fantastic Feature: semi-aquatic (can live on land and water)

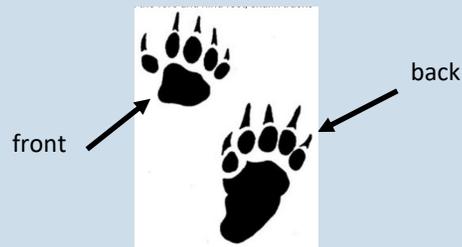
Striped Skunk

(*Mephitis mephitis*)

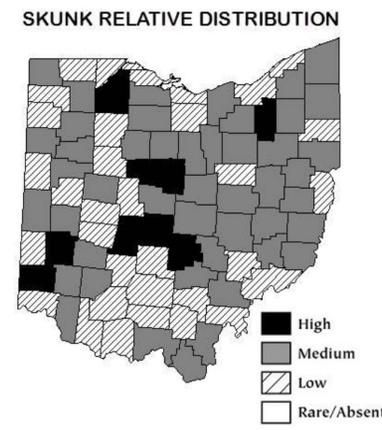
 **Fast fact:** To release their scent bomb, a skunk turns around and blasts its enemy with a stinky mist that can travel as far as 10 feet. This smell can be noticed up to a mile away.

 **Habitat:** Open areas as well as woods, grasslands, and fields.

 **Description:** The hair is long and black with patches of white on its head and shoulders. Two white lines travel down the back forming a "V." The tail is bushy and can be up to 15 inches long. They have poor eyesight, but an excellent sense of smell and hearing. They can run up to 10 miles per hour. Skunks can live up to 3 years in the wild and 10 years in captivity.



 **Babies:** Litters can be from two-10 young. The family will stay together until the fall. Newborns come into the world blind and helpless. The babies will then go off on their own. Baby skunks learn how to use their defensive spray within the first few weeks of life.



Diet: omnivore (fruit, plants, insects, worms)

Predators: coyote, bobcat, owl

Fantastic Feature: best defense system—stinky scent

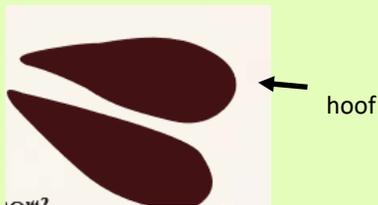
White Tailed Deer

(*Odocoileus virginianus*)

 **Fast fact:** Whitetails are able to reach speeds of 30 miles per hour and leap as high as 10 feet high and as far as 30 feet in a single bound.

 **Habitat:** A mixture of forest, brushland, and cropland. They are active around the clock, but less so during daylight hours. They are on the move at dawn and dusk.

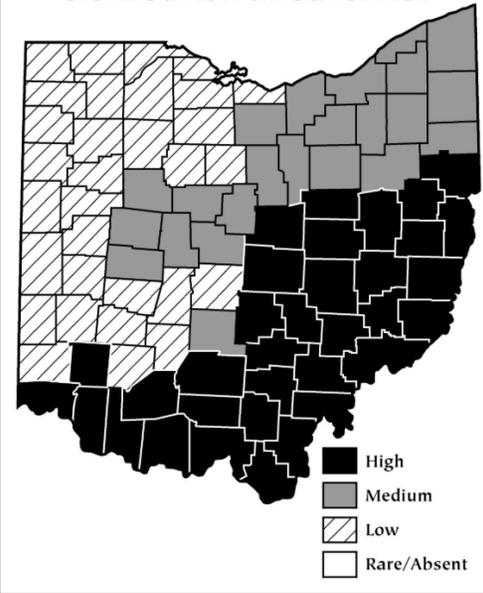
 **Description:** The whitetail has two seasonal coats. The winter coat is gray with heavy, long guard hairs and a thick undercoat that provides warmth through insulation. The spring/summer coat is reddish tan and short with a thin, wiry hair texture. White patches are found around the eyes, on the throat, belly, and the underside of the tail.



 **Babies:** Females usually have a single fawn when they are only one year old. Most adult females will have twins and occasionally triplets. Fawns are born quickly with the female either standing or lying down. Females return to the same place each year to give birth.



Where can they be found in Ohio?



Diet: herbivore (corn, sumac leaves, fruits, stems)

Predators: coyotes, bear, hunters

Fantastic Feature: fast in order to escape predators

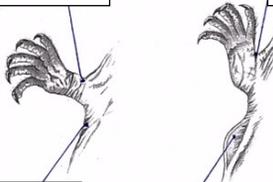
Little Brown Bat

(*Myotis lucifugus*)

Fast fact: Most bats in Ohio are small and brown. So, scientists have to look closely at other details like the calcar (located near the ankle) to determine which species it is.

wing attachment at base of ankle

wing attachment at base of toes



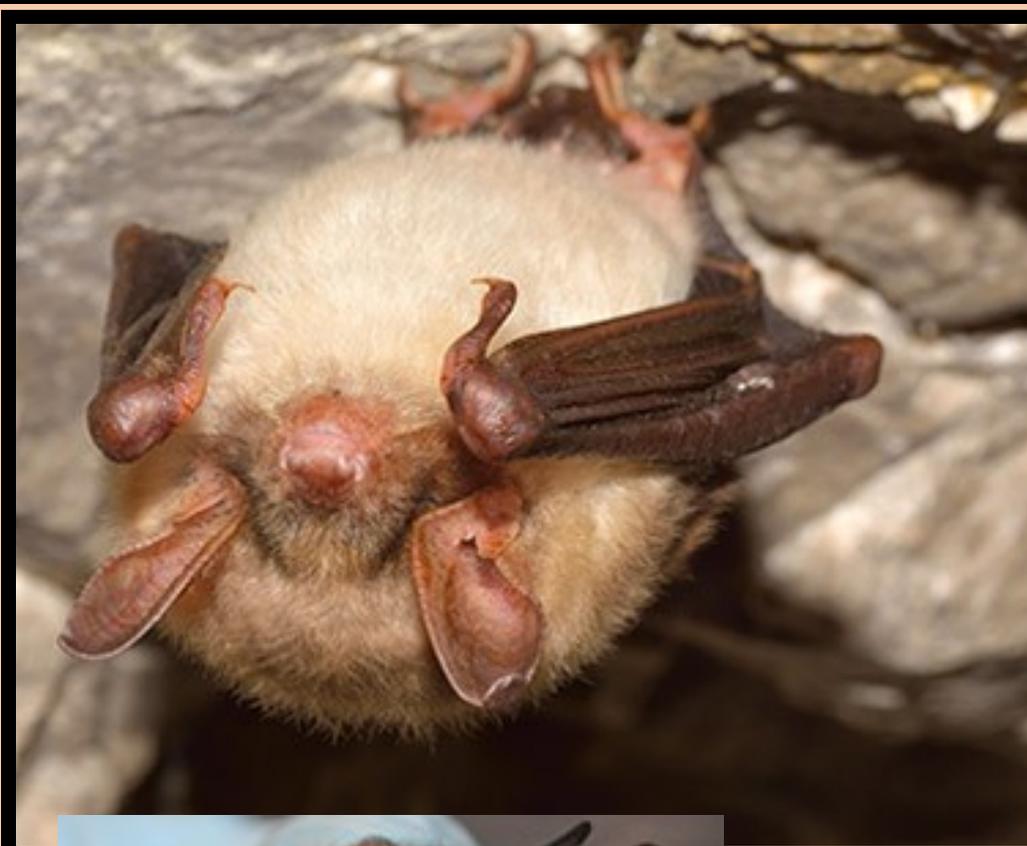
calcar not keeled

keeled calcar

Habitat: They roost in trees with their colony. They also like bat boxes, barns, and buildings. In the winter, they migrate short distances to caves or mines that give them more stable temperatures.

Description: Their fur is brown, sleek and smooth with a paler underside. The ears are short, and there is fur on their muzzle. They weigh less than one ounce. They have a wingspan of 8-11 inches. Females are usually larger than males.

Babies: In the late summer, mating occurs. Most females give birth to only one young a year, but some have had twins. Young bats are weaned and able to fly at about four weeks old.



RANGE

Summer



Winter

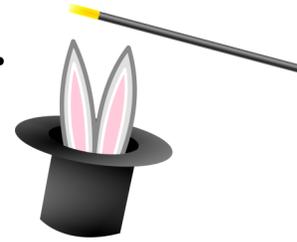


Diet: herbivore; a variety of insects

Predators: cats, snakes, large birds

Fantastic Feature: echolocation (a super sense)

Magic Act

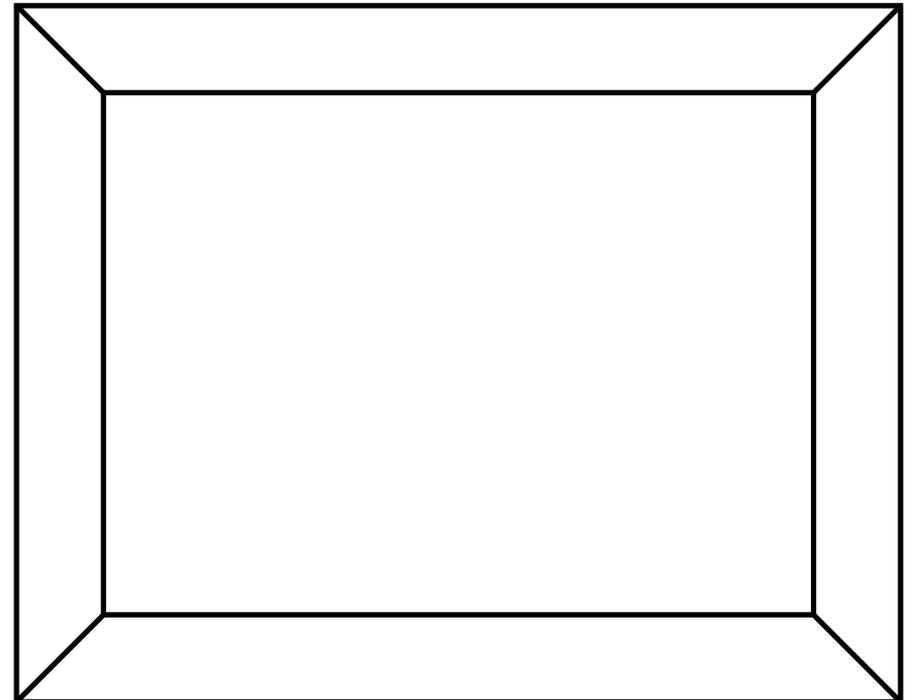
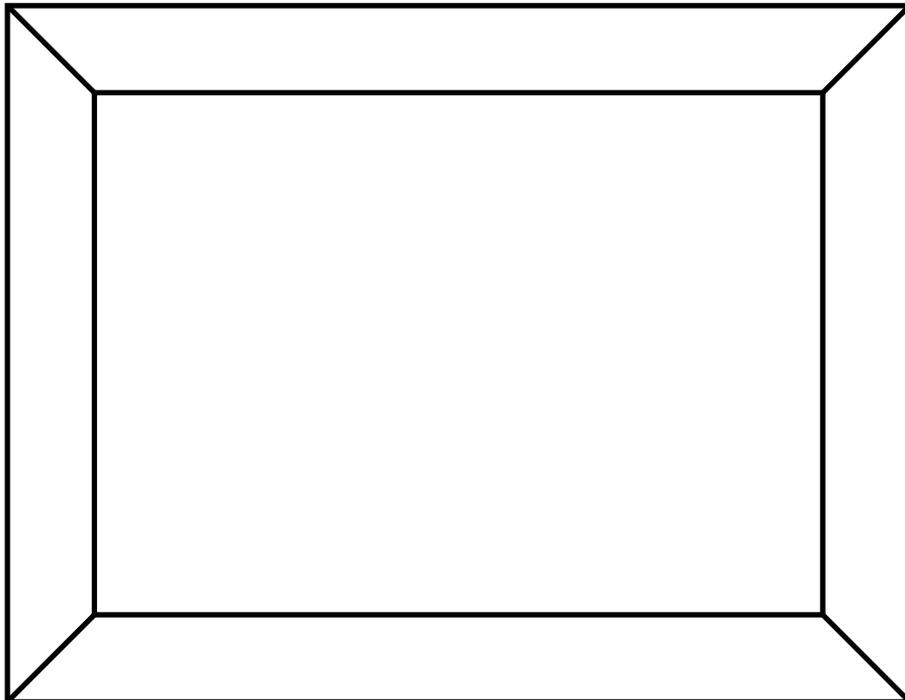


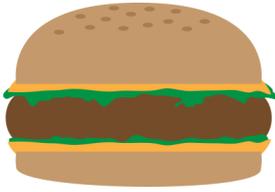
Name _____

1. What magic act does the snow shoe hare perform in order to survive?

2. How is this a helpful trait?

Draw both versions of the hare in its natural habitat. Be sure to illustrate a background that reveals how this trait helps them blend in.



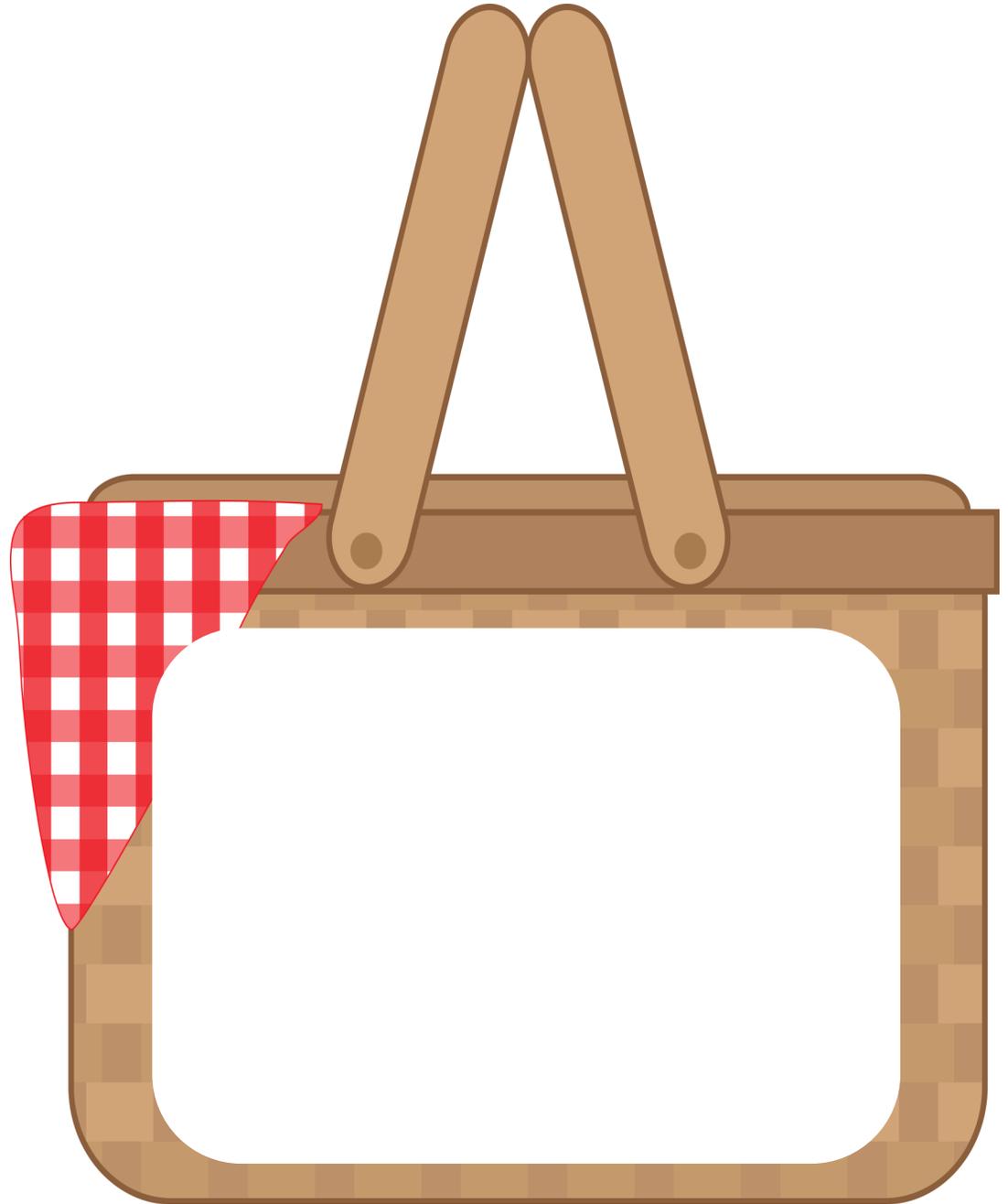


What's for Lunch?

Name _____

A skunk is an omnivore and eats a variety of things. If you could create a lunch for a skunk, what would you put in its picnic basket?

Write a description below (use many adjectives):



Deer Races

Name _____



The White Tailed Deer is one of the fastest land animals in Ohio. How do other animals compare with its speed? Who would win, a deer or bobcat? Research other Ohio animals and fill in the chart to show how they would compare.

White tailed deer Reaches speeds of:	 Winner?	Ohio bobcat Reaches speeds of:
White Tailed Deer Reaches speeds of:	 Winner?	Black bear Reaches speeds of:
White Tailed Deer Reaches speeds of:	 Winner?	_____ Reaches speeds of:

Next, research how other animals in the world would compare with the White Tailed Deer. Like, a White Tailed Deer and a cheetah?

White tailed deer reaches speeds of:	 Winner?	_____ reaches speeds of:
White tailed deer reaches speeds of:	 Winner?	_____ reaches speeds of:

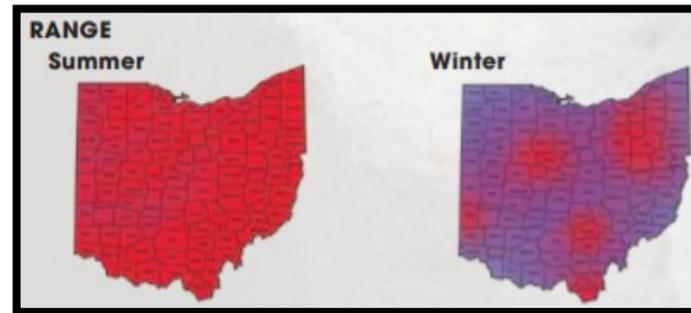
How is speed a helpful trait for the deer? _____

HELLO, HELLO



Name _____

In Ohio, there are 13 species of bats. Bats like to live in caves, abandoned mines, and attics in old buildings.



What can you infer about the two maps? _____

Why would there be less record of bats in the winter? _____

Bats use echolocation to navigate and find food in the dark. Echolocation is the use of sound waves and echoes to determine where objects are in space.

Echolocation game:

Five students stand in a staggered line while the "bat" stands on one side ready to "fly" (blindfolded). The goal is for the bat to get to the other side without touching or running into anything. As the bat begins to "fly," the five students need to make a sound so the bat does not run into them.

How would bats fly in the dark without echolocation? How would they find food at night?
