



Blizzard Bag – Day Three

Mrs. McKibben and Mrs. Griffith
4th Grade – Pickaway Elementary

We hope that you enjoy your snow day. Here are your required Blizzard Bag lessons to complete. They are due back at school when we return.

Reading

“The Big-Eared, Bushy-Tailed Fennec Fox” story and questions
***Try to make time to read for 15 minutes during the day also!!*

Math

“Winter Clothing Drive” worksheet
***Try to make time to practice your math facts during the day also!!*

Social Studies

“Map Skills” worksheet

Science

“How Do Snowflakes Get Their Shape?” text and questions

Name: _____

The Big-Eared, Bushy-Tailed Fennec Fox

by Guy Belleranti

In the deserts of North Africa and Saudi Arabia lives the smallest of all foxes with the largest of ears. This animal is the fennec fox.

Fennec foxes have ears that are 5 to 6 inches long. That's big for an animal that weighs less than four pounds. Their ears help shed body heat. And, as you may have guessed, they also provide great hearing.

It's interesting to compare the big ears of fennec foxes to the small ears of arctic foxes. Arctic foxes live in cold climates, so they don't need to shed heat. Instead, they need to save heat. Big ears would not save heat and would probably even cause an arctic fox to get frostbitten!

It's also interesting to think about the hair of fennec foxes. Why would a fox that lives in the desert need a thick, fur coat? Actually, the desert isn't always warm. During the nighttime, a desert can be downright cold! A fennec fox's fur keeps them warm during those chilly desert nights. They also have long bushy tails that they use as a blanket. And the hair on their feet protects them from the hot sand in the daytime.



Fennec foxes live in small communities of burrows or dens. They spend most of the day sleeping in their dens, out of the hot sun. Then, when night comes, out they come in search of food. In addition to their great hearing, fennecs also use their great sense of smell and big eyes to track down dinner. Animals that are active at night are called nocturnal.

Like other foxes, fennecs are omnivores. This means they eat both meat and plants. Some of their favorite foods include rodents, birds, eggs, insects, lizards, snails, fruit and leaves.

Fennec fox mothers give birth to a litter of one to five babies (called kits). The average life span of a Fennec fox is 10 to 12 years.

The cream coloration of fennec foxes help them blend into their desert habitat. Still, they have to watch out for predators. These include caracals (a type of wild cat), jackals, eagle owls, hyenas and humans. Humans catch them for their fur and to sell as exotic pets.

About the Author

Guy Belleranti works as a docent at Reid Park Zoo in Tucson, Arizona. The information in this article comes from his experiences working with animals and teaching others.

Name: _____

The Big-Eared, Bushy-Tailed Fennec Fox

by Guy Belleranti

1. List two ways the fennec fox's ears help it to survive.

2. Why does a fennec fox have thick hair?

- a. to help it survive in cold, arctic climates
- b. to help it survive in the cold, desert night
- c. to help it hear enemies approaching
- d. to help it shed heat



3. Where might you find a fennec fox in the wild?

- a. Brazil
- b. France
- c. Russia
- d. Egypt

4. Name some of the predators of the fennec fox.

5. Name some animals that are prey to the fennec fox.

6. A fennec fox just had a litter of kits. Which number of kits would the fox be most likely to have?

- a. two
- b. seven
- c. ten
- d. twelve

Challenge: With a parent or teacher's help, use the Internet to print out facts about fennec foxes and arctic foxes. Then, make a Venn diagram to compare and contrast the two species.

Name: _____

The Big-Eared, Bushy-Tailed Fennec Fox

by Guy Belleranti



Some of the sentences below are true. Others are false.

Read each sentence. If the sentence is true, write the word true on the line. If the sentence is false, cross out the underlined word(s) and write a new word on the line to make the sentence true.

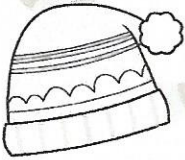
1. A baby fennec fox is called a cub. _____
2. Fennec foxes are nocturnal. _____
3. Fennec foxes are carnivores. _____
4. The hair on a fennec fox's ears protects it from the hot desert sand. _____
5. Fennec foxes have ears that are about 6 inches long. _____
6. A caracal is a type of wild cat. _____
7. Fennec foxes search for food in the afternoon. _____
8. Fennec foxes live about 20 years. _____
9. Fennec foxes spend a lot of time sleeping during the daylight hours. _____
10. Fennec foxes live in communities of burrows or dens. _____

Name _____

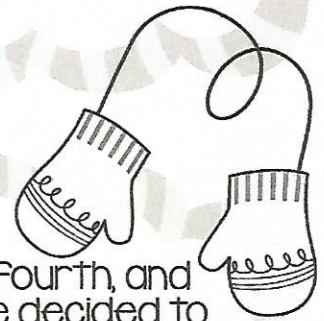
Winter Clothing Drive



Mr. Parker's class was collecting mittens for a mitten drive. By the end of week one they had 24 pairs of mittens. The next week 5 students brought in 4 pairs each. How many pairs did they have by the end of week two?



For the clothing drive, Mrs. Baker's class was to be collecting hats. Their goal was to collect 100 hats. If there are 25 students in the class, how many hats should each student try to bring?



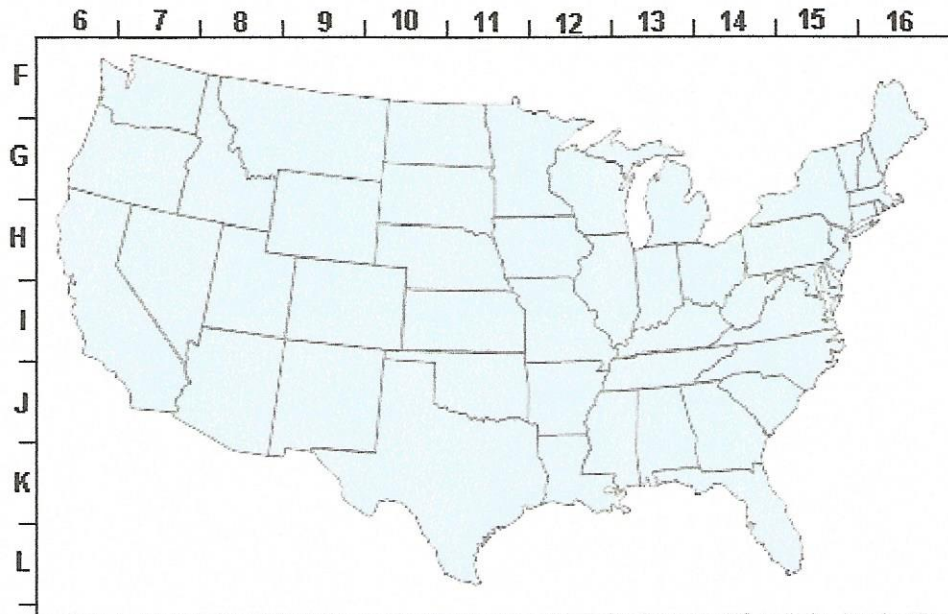
In the school office there was a box for coat donations. A local organization donated 23 coats, and then each of the 18 teachers brought in one coat to donate. The goal was to collect 60 coats. How many more coats do they need in order to reach the goal?

The third, fourth, and fifth grade decided to have a coin drive. The 3rd grade collected \$55.82, 4th grade collected \$67.23, and the 5th grade collected \$38.75. How much did all three grades collect combined?

Blizzard Bag Assignment
Map Skills

Name _____

Social Studies



1. On the provided map of the United States, what are the coordinates for Washington, D.C.?

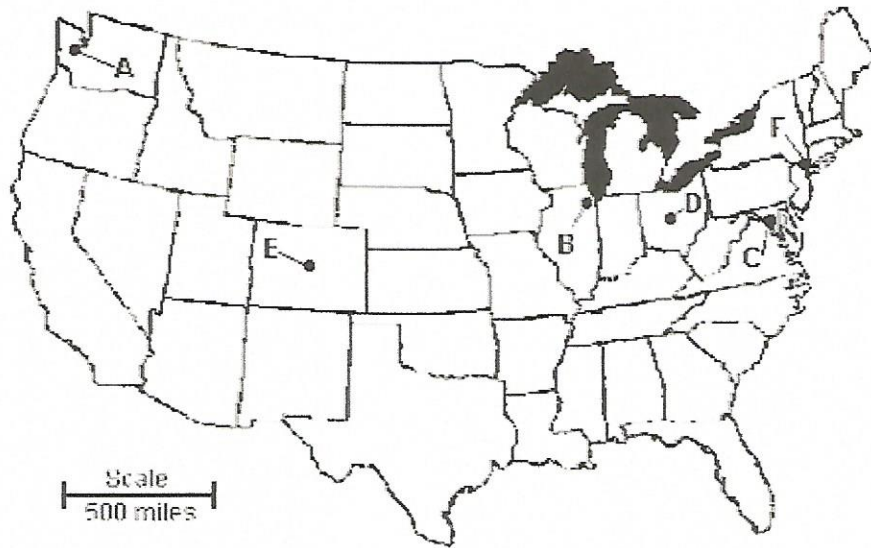
- A. F-10
- B. G-7
- C. I-15
- D. I-6

2. On the provided map of the United States, what are the coordinates for Illinois?

- A. F-10
- B. H-12
- C. I-7
- D. L-10

3. On the provided map of the United States, what are the coordinates for Ohio?

- A. G-13
- B. J-12
- C. H-14
- D. I-10



4. Using the map provided, approximately how far is it from Chicago, Illinois (B) to Washington, D.C. (C)?

- A. 1000 miles
- B. 100 miles
- C. 700 miles
- D. 1200 miles



5. What state borders Ohio to the west?

- A. Michigan
 - B. Pennsylvania
 - C. West Virginia
 - D. Indiana
-

6. What state borders Ohio to the southeast?

- A. Michigan
 - B. West Virginia
 - C. Indiana
 - D. Pennsylvania
-



7. Which Ohio city is marked with a U on the map?

- A. Cincinnati
 - B. Dayton
 - C. Toledo
 - D. Akron
-

8. Which Ohio city is marked with a Z on the map?

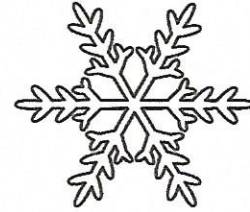
- A. Toledo
 - B. Akron
 - C. Cleveland
 - D. Columbus
-

9. Which Ohio city is marked with a X on the map?

- A. Toledo
- B. Akron
- C. Cleveland
- D. Columbus

Name: _____

How do snowflakes get their shape?



Have you ever wondered how snowflakes form? Snowflakes come in different sizes and shapes. In fact, no two snowflakes are *exactly* alike! The most common snowflake shape is a six-sided, flat structure. However, some snowflakes are needle shaped or hollow. So, how do snowflakes get their shape?

Snowflakes are a form of precipitation. They form in clouds. Water vapor rises into the atmosphere. When water vapor cools, it condenses into liquid water. If the temperature is 32°F or colder, liquid water freezes in the cloud. Ice forms on tiny dust particles in the cloud. This process forms snowflakes.

Temperature, wind and humidity (the amount of moisture in the air) affect the size and shape of the snowflake. Most snowflakes have six sides. When the temperature is colder, the arms of the snowflake are pointier. If the arms are pointers, there can be branching of the snowflake arms. This forms a “lacy” shaped snowflake. These are the prettiest snowflakes!

Most snowflakes are **symmetrical**. This means snowflakes are the same on all sides. This is because of how water arranges itself when it freezes. Water makes crystal shapes, or snowflakes, when it freezes on dust particles in clouds.

How do snowflakes get their shape? continued

Directions: Use evidence from the reading to answer the following questions. Write your answers in complete sentences.

What is the most common snowflake shape?

Where are snowflakes formed?

What affects the shape of a snowflake?

What does **symmetrical** mean?

Why are most snowflakes symmetrical?
