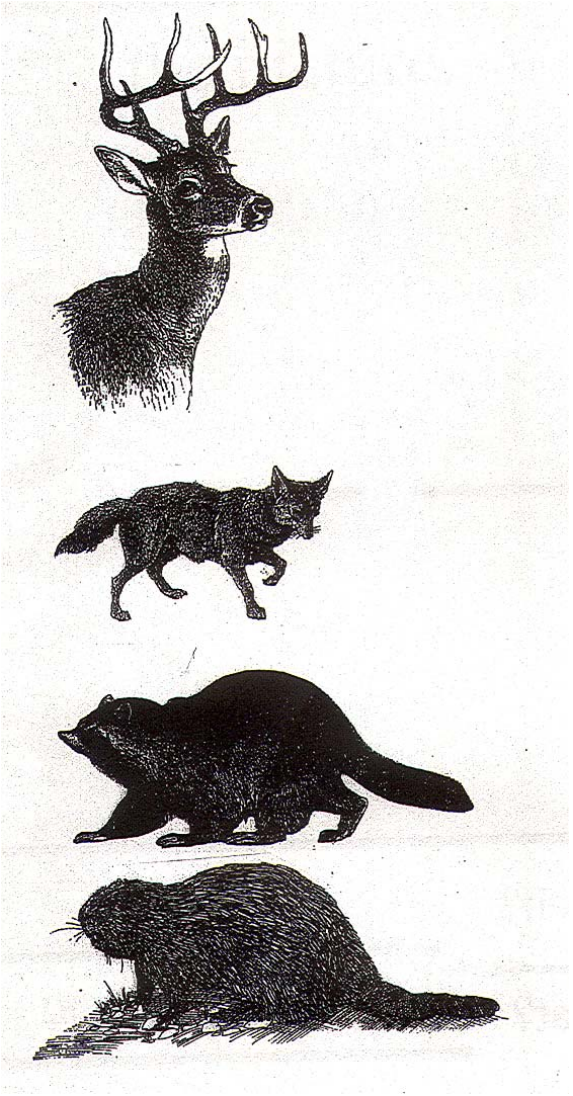
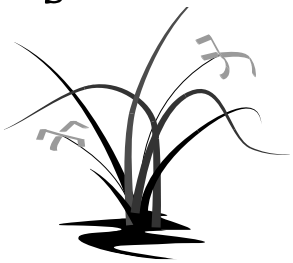
Animal Tracks

Draw a line connecting the animal to its footprint.



Nixon Park Scavenger Hunt

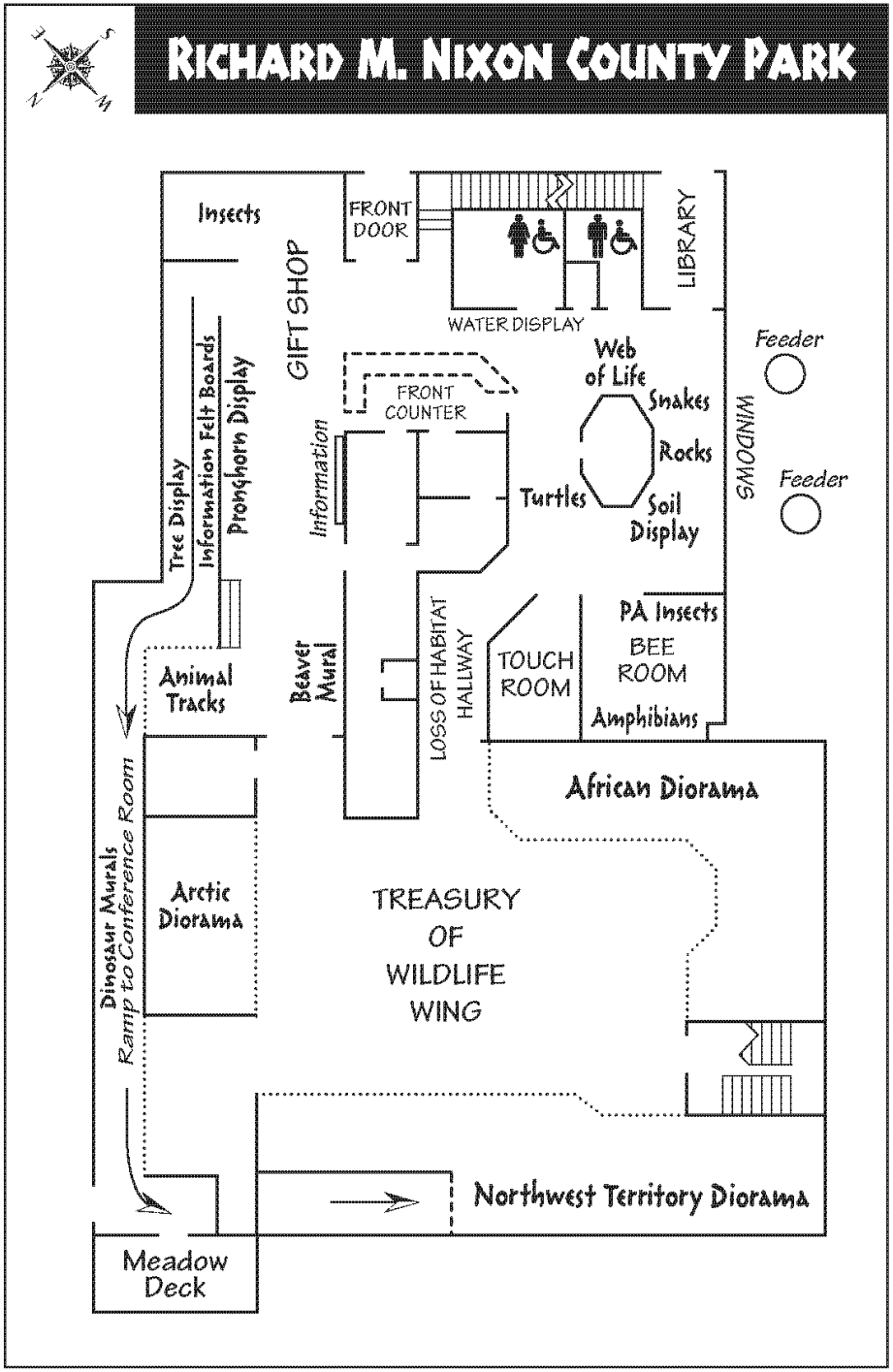
3rd grade and up



Learn to protect and save our wildlife habitat in York.

Name: _____

Floor Plan of the Nature Center



Lower Ramp
Owls of Pennsylvania

Owls hunt by sound. Where are their ears?

_____

Check the ways owl <u>feet</u> are special:

- ☐ They have feathers.
- ☐ They have sharp talons.
- ☐ One toe can go forwards or backwards.
- ☐ They hold tight while owls hang upside down.

How far can owls rotate their head?

90° 180° 270° 360°

A circle is 360°

Which owl is your favorite? Sketch it and label it!

Lower Ramp- Dinosaurs

Answer the questions by observing the mural.

Were insects around when dinosaurs ruled the land?

Yes **No**

Were all dinosaurs larger than you?

Yes **No**

Can you find one prehistoric animal that still around today?

_____

How are dinosaur's born?

_____

Describe the plants of the Triassic Era shown on the dinosaur wall.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Insects!

Some insects avoid being eaten by disguising themselves as a natural object such as a twig.

Can you name three other insect disguises?

_____, _____, and

_____

Some insects take a more aggressive approach. Some moths use _____ on their wings to startle their predator. Poisonous insects advertise their presence with _____.

What is mimicry? _____

_____

Name one mimic: _____

Name three insect relatives shown in the display.

_____, _____

_____

Water Display

What is a watershed? _____

_____

_____

What is the name of the watershed in the mural?

_____

How many gallons does Lake Redman hold?

31 Billion

3.1 Billion

3.1 Million

The water meter measures how much water is used each day at Nixon Park.

How much water was used yesterday?

_____GAL

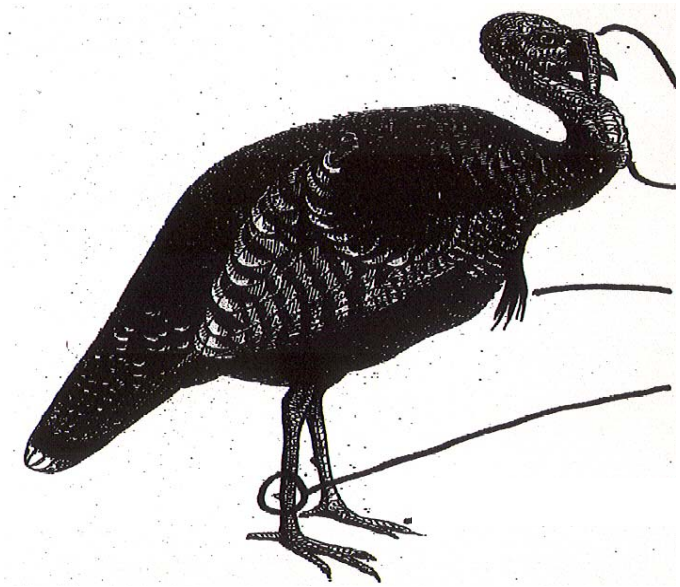
How much water has been used today?

_____GAL

Lower Ramp Turkey Exhibit

The Wild Turkey is the largest game bird in North America. They forage mostly on the ground for seeds, nuts, acorns, and insects. At night they roost in trees. In 1776 when our national bird was being selected, Benjamin Franklin opposed the bald eagle, which he called "a bird of bad moral character", and instead proposed the Wild Turkey be our national bird.

Label the parts of the turkey.



_____

_____

_____

_____

Describe the pattern on a turkey wing feather:

_____

Lower Ramp Antler Exhibit

Find out the difference between antlers and horns!

Put an "**A**" in front of the phrases that best describe antlers.

Put an "**H**" in front of those that best describe horns.

_____ Are shed every year

_____ Are attached for life

_____ Made of keratin, like our hair

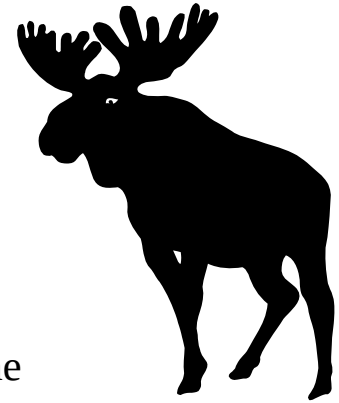
_____ Made of bone

_____ Found on males of the deer family

_____ Found on male and female caribou

_____ Found on sheep, goats, and antelope

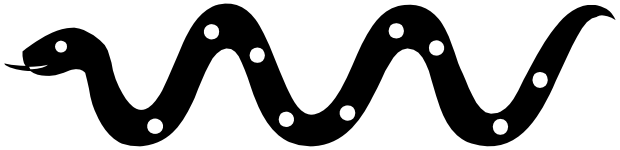
Pronghorn Antelope



Moose

Which horned animal sheds the outer part of its horn during winter? _____

Pennsylvania's Snakes



Are snakes warm-blooded or cold-blooded? What does that mean? _____

Do snakes have a backbone? _____

A snake uses his tongue to _____ & _____

Are snakes herbivores, omnivores, or carnivores? What do they eat? _____

In Pennsylvania, you can use the shape of the snake's pupil to determine if it is venomous or not. Of course, in the wild we don't recommend you get close enough to find out!

<u>Draw the pupil of each snake's eye.</u>

Venomous Non-venomous

Rocks!

What colors are the Gettysburg Porcelanite (49)?

_____, _____

Conglomerates are sedimentary rocks made up of many smaller rocks, such as the High Terrace Gravel (54). Can you find two more conglomerates on the rock wall?

_____, _____

It takes _____ years for one inch of soil to form!

Soil layers are called _____.

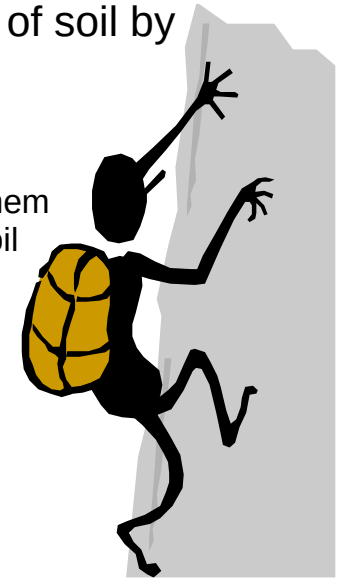
The loosening and movement of soil by wind and water is called _____.

List three animals, and how many of them might be found in a square meter of soil thirty centimeters deep.

_____

_____

_____



TREE DISPLAY (on the ramp)

How old is the oldest tree on display? _____

On the white oak, what happened in 1839? _____

_____

Look at the poster. What happened in 1930 and how is it shown?

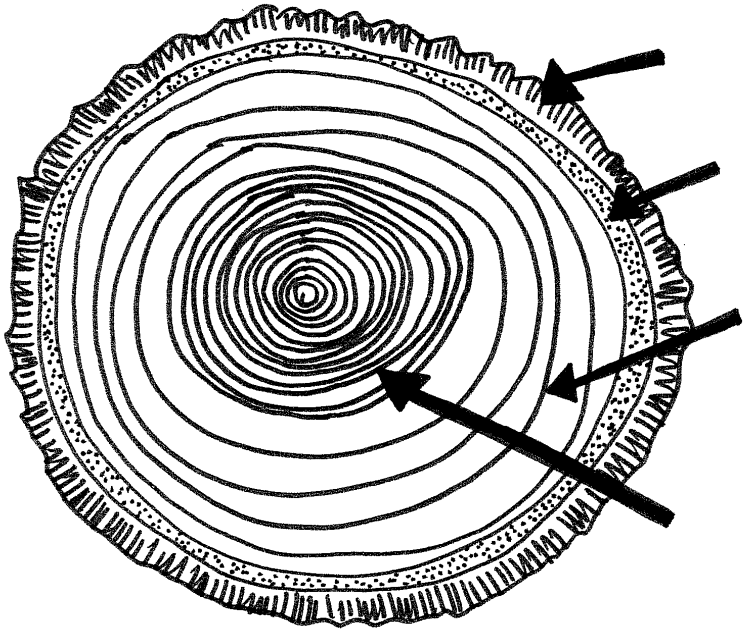
_____

What 3 factors influence the size of the tree? W_____

N_____ C_____

Label the parts of the tree.

(Sapwood, Hardwood, Outer Bark, Inner Bark)



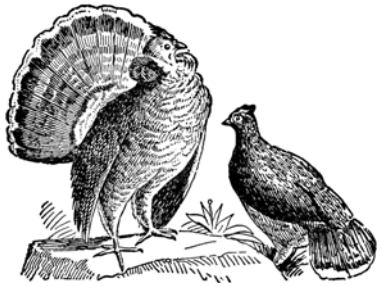
Animal Groups

(Animal Tracks Area)

Match the type of animal with its group name.

Animal	Group
Jellyfish	Pickle
Owls	Wake
Porcupine	Convocation
Eagles	Smack
Vultures	Charm
Finches	Parliament

Pennsylvania's state bird is the Ruffed Grouse. In the spring the male attracts females to his territory by raising his ruffs and crest, fanning his tail, and beating his wings to make a hollow, rapid, drumming noise.



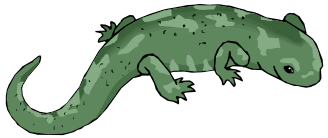
Amphibians!

List 2 reasons why amphibians are important.

_____ _____

List 4 habitats where amphibians live.

_____ _____



_____ _____

What is the only continent where amphibians do not live?

_____

Phenology!

(In the Bee Room)

Phenology is a branch of _____

dealing with the relations between _____

and periodic biologic phenomena.

HUH??? THIS IS JUST ALL THE STUFF THAT GOES ON IN THE DIFFERENT SEASONS!!!

Circle the current season.
List or draw one activity you do in each season.

Spring Summer Fall Winter

Name one natural thing that happens this month, according to the display:

State Symbols

Most Pennsylvanian's know that our state mammal is the white-tail deer. But can you find the rest of our state symbols that are located throughout the Nature Center? Write the common name next to the symbol.

Bird? _____

Flower? _____

Tree? _____

Fish? _____

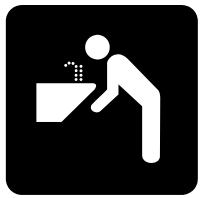
Fossil? _____

Insect? _____

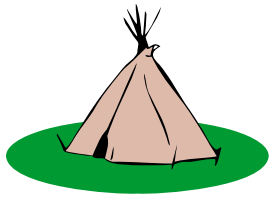
Loss of Habitat

Label the four items necessary for wildlife in its habitat. Use the pictures as clues.

_____



_____



_____

_____

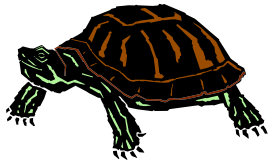
Habitat loss is the number one reason for wildlife decline.

Pick your favorite Pennsylvania animal. Name it, and list its habitat needs: _____

_____

_____

Pennsylvania Turtles



How many different kinds of turtles live in Pennsylvania? _____

Circle the correct answers

Turtles lay or bask in the sun to _____.

Warm-up Find food Digest food

Have fun Help eggs develop

True and False Questions: Circle T for true or F for false.

T F A turtle's backbone is part of its shell.

T F Turtles can crawl out of their shell.

T F Turtles make good pets.

T F Turtles have a home range or territory.

Look at the Pennsylvania turtle information cards. Which turtle is your favorite and why?

Archaeology: Digging into the past

Describe the climate and environment in the earliest era depicted in the archaeology display.

_____

_____

What time period was the Woodland Era?

_____ BC to _____AD

What did the Shenk's Ferry people call themselves?

_____

What tribes were here during the Contact Period?

_____, _____

_____, _____

Archaeologists unravel the secrets of the past by looking at clues left behind by ancient peoples. This collection of artifacts was collected locally by a young boy many years ago. He carefully labeled each item and did not mix up his collection, making it much more valuable to archaeologists.

Exotic, Threatened, Endangered, Extinct, & Recovered

(In the Loss of Habitat Hallway)

What 3 factors contributed to the otter's decline?

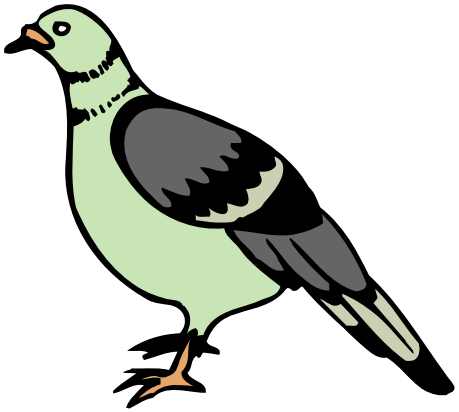
1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

What can you do in your backyard to help wildlife?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

When did the last passenger pigeon die?

_____



Should piranha live in Lake Redman?_____

Meadow Deck

Step outside onto our deck overlooking the garden.

Close your eyes and use your sense of hearing. Write down any sounds you hear.

_____

_____

_____

Draw a picture of what you see.

Northwest Territory

The best way to stay alive is to avoid danger all together. Several animals displayed here have "early warning" systems. List three animals and their special survival skill .

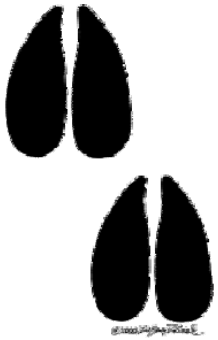
Animal	Body Part	Benefit
Squirrel	big eyes	can see well

Hooves are designed for animals that run. Caribou have splayed hooves which provide sure footing on ice, snow, and spongy bogs. Can you find three other animals in the display that have hooves?

_____

_____

_____



Arctic Adventure

The diorama depicts springtime, which may last only _____ Weeks, and temperatures remain about _____ºF. List two ways you can tell it is spring.

_____

_____

Name two predatory birds shown here

_____, _____

Do the male or female walrus have tusks? _____

Name one country with Arctic habitat. _____

The polar bears white fur provides camouflage as he hunts seals on the pack ice, but when the snow melts his white fur stands out! Name an arctic animal whose fur or feathers change color with the seasons: _____

African Safari

Match the African animal to the camouflage pattern it uses to survive.

Leopard	Solid dark spots to hide in brush and low grasses
Zebra	Black stripe on side to break up animal's shape out in the open
Cheetah	Black and white stripes, so animals moving together will confuse a predator
Steinbok	Dark spots with light centers for night hunting

Challenge Question:

What adult animal in the diorama has no natural predators– except humans– in Africa?

_____