

## The Bears of Yellowstone National Park



- 1) Which bear can be black, brown, or blonde? Grizzly Bear Black Bear
- 2) Which bears have a distinct hump on their shoulders? \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) The rump is higher than the shoulders on this bear. Black Bear Grizzly Bear
- 4) \_\_\_\_\_ have a dished-in profile.
- 5) \_\_\_\_\_ have a straight profile between their eyes and snout.
- 6) \_\_\_\_\_ have rounded ears.
- 7) This bear has long, straight claws. Black Bear Grizzly Bear
- 8) This bear has toes in an arc and short claws. Grizzly Bear Black Bear
- 9) This bear sometimes has silver tips on its fur. Black Bear Grizzly Bear
- 10) You should stay at least 100 yards from this bear. Grizzly Bear Black Bear



	<b>Black Bear</b>
Shoulder:	No hump
Ears:	Taller
Face:	Straight profile
Front Claws:	Dark ~ 1.5" long

	<b>Grizzly Bear</b>
Shoulder:	Hump
Ears:	Short and rounded
Face:	Dished profile
Front Claws:	Light ~ 2-4" long

## Black Bear or Grizzly Bear?

Yellowstone is prime habitat for both grizzly bears and black bears. With a little luck, you might spot one on a visit to the park. But it's not as easy as you might think to tell them apart.

Here are some clues to help distinguish between grizzly bears and black bears:

Due to their name, you might think that black bears are black, and grizzly bears are ...well... some other color. But all of Yellowstone's bears – both black bears and grizzlies – can be black, brown, or even blonde. Because of their reputations, you might also think that all black bears are much smaller than grizzlies. Grizzlies are generally bigger, but a big black bear can easily outweigh a female grizzly or a young grizzly. Without color or size as a guide, you have to look at other features.

The best way to tell grizzlies and black bears apart at a distance is by their body shape.

Grizzlies have a distinct hump on their shoulders that is higher than their rump. This hump is a mass of muscle that makes their front legs powerful digging tools. Black bears have only a slight shoulder hump if any at all, and their rump is higher than their shoulders.

Another way you can tell the two bears apart is by the shape of their face. Grizzly bears have a clear depression between their eyes and snout – a dished-in profile. Black bears have a straight profile between their eyes and snout. Grizzly bears also have relatively smaller, more rounded ears, whereas black bears have more prominent, oval shaped ears.

You can also tell grizzly and black bears apart from the tracks they leave. The toes of a grizzly bear are in fairly straight line, not too dissimilar from those of a human's. And, because grizzlies have long, straight claws, the claw marks show up quite a distance from the bear's toes. The toes of a black bear, in contrast, are arranged in an arc. Their shorter claws leave marks closer to the toes.

So other clues are much more reliable than color or size to differentiate black bears and grizzlies. But why, then, are they named the way they are?

Black bears got their common name because, in many other parts of the country besides Yellowstone, most of them are black. Grizzlies are so named because the tips of their fur are often silver, lending them a “grizzled” appearance. In Yellowstone, many grizzlies do indeed have grizzled fur. But if you’re close enough to see those silver tips, you’re probably far too close to the bear.

For your own safety and for that of the bear, park regulations require that you stay at least 100 yards from bears– that’s the length of a football field.

You can find more information about staying safe in bear country on the park’s website. By watching bears from distance, you can help ensure all bears – be they black or grizzly – will stay wild and survive to thrill the next park visitor lucky enough to spot a bear.

# All About Bears!



**This is my bear picture!**

My bear's name is - - - - -

I like my bear because - - - - -

- - - - -

- - - - -

A bear's fur is - - - - -

A Bear sounds - - - - -

A bear looks - - - - -

# BEARS

1. Choose the right verb for each of the pictures below.

A. dig

B. climb

C. walk

D. munch



2. Bears eat lots of different things. Which of these are not mentioned in the book?

A. Fish

B. Honey

C. Berries

D. Bamboo

E. Seals

F. Insects

3. Can you finish off each sentence? Choose the right ending.

A. All bears...

...live in the icy arctic.

B. Panda bears...

...are as small as apples.

C. Polar bears...

...dig dens.

D. Female bears...

...have thick, heavy coats and big furry paws.

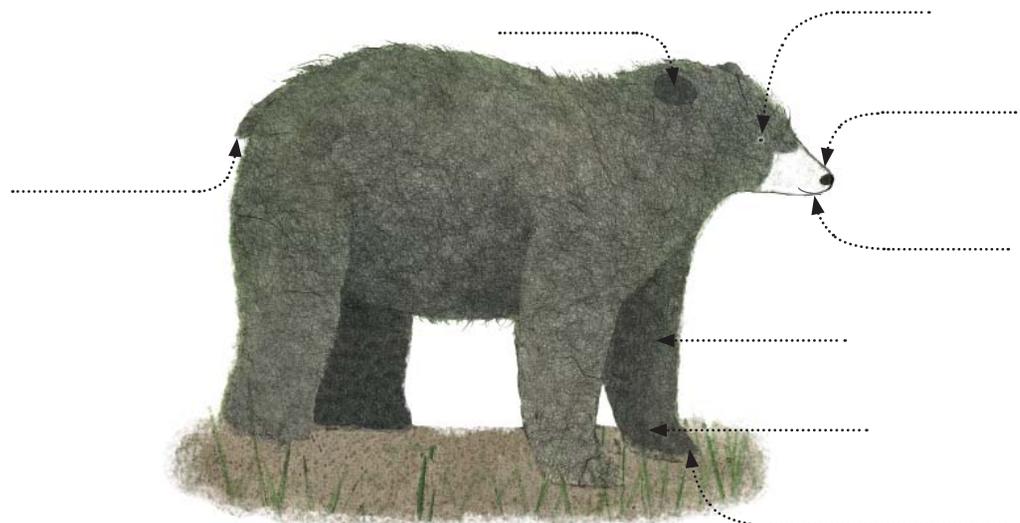
E. Baby bear cubs...

...live high up on cold mountains.

4. Can you label the parts of a bear's body in the picture below?

Choose from the words in the box.

eye  
nose  
mouth  
ear  
leg  
paw  
claws  
tail



# Bears

**Writing activity:** Choose one of the types of bear shown on pages 24-25 of the book. Find out some more about it, and complete the bear fact card below. Fill in the name of your bear, and draw a picture. You could cut out your card and use it in a class display.

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.....

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.....

<p>.....</p>	<p>Lives in:</p> <p>Likes to eat:</p> <p>Bear fact:</p> <p>I chose this bear because:</p>
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# Bear Word Search

H F M Y C U Q Z Y B P C Z P C  
T I L A M M A M E E R V U D Z  
L S B E G L J Z N R T P E B C  
D H E E L Q H H O R H N M O S  
X R F R R Q P S H I J Q K T C  
T V I G O N Y M F E P K R U F  
P A W S C F A W J S D O W X O  
X W B U E C K T Q B N O C P M  
Q Z T T T N G G E G W Q F O Q  
N D N T O E C H F S H L S N E

tree  
honey  
paws  
strong  
cubs  
fish

hibernate  
mammal  
den  
forest  
berries  
fur



# Discover Brown Bears – The Grizzlies

Read the sentences below. Visit our Easy Science for Kids page [All about Brown Bears](#) to find the missing words.

Write them in the empty spaces and find these hidden words in the puzzle!

[Words might be hidden horizontally, vertically and perhaps even back to front...!]

1. Brown bears are more \_\_\_\_\_ than other bears, but they usually leave people alone unless they feel scared.
2. Brown bears dig cozy caves with their long \_\_\_\_\_. They sleep in the caves for most of the \_\_\_\_\_.
3. These big bears love \_\_\_\_\_ and other fish. In Alaska, Washington and Canada, they stand in \_\_\_\_\_ and catch the fish in their mouths or with their \_\_\_\_\_.
4. North American brown bears are sometimes called \_\_\_\_\_, and they are definitely big, \_\_\_\_\_ animals.
5. Brown bears are \_\_\_\_\_, which means they eat just about anything.
6. Brown bear \_\_\_\_\_ have babies during the winter while they are asleep.
7. Brown bears aren't just \_\_\_\_\_. Some are cream or black.
8. They'll eat your \_\_\_\_\_ if you let them, but you should never feed a bear.

A	S	A	M	A	M	O	I	P	O	N	Y	I	E	S	X
S	R	A	G	G	R	E	S	S	I	V	E	N	C	A	I
E	E	C	R	E	I	F	B	R	O	W	N	E	I	W	N
S	V	M	A	Z	D	E	S	E	R	O	V	I	N	M	O
W	I	N	T	E	R	A	H	T	J	K	L	W	S	E	M
A	R	Z	G	A	R	B	A	G	E	E	Y	D	R	O	L
L	O	R	D	E	Z	S	E	I	L	Z	Z	I	R	G	A
C	L	P	A	X	C	B	F	H	K	E	Y	P	A	W	S

# ANIMAL WORLD:

## Brown Bears



Read the text:



The brown bear family is spread all over the world. They live in dense forests in mountains, valleys and meadows and can be found in Canada, in central regions of the U.S. And throughout Europe and Asia.

Brown bears can be recognized by their most distinctive feature, their shoulder hump. Super strong shoulder muscles help this bear to dig up roots and tear apart logs to find food.

The coloring of brown bears differs according to environmental conditions, such as diet and temperature, which are specific to the geographical area in which they live. Their fur can be whitish, blond, red, or black, in addition to the typical dark brown.

Brown bears may be active at any time of the day, but generally forage in the morning and evening and rest in dense cover by day.

Brown bears are 1 to 2.8 meters in length from head to rump and their tails are 65 to 210 mm long. They are 90 to 150 cm tall at the shoulder and can tower at an intimidating height of 8 feet when standing upright on their hind legs. They range in weight from 80 to more than 600 kg.

The brown bear's diet is quite similar to all other bears. They eat grass, fruit, insects, roots and bulbs of plants. They can also

hunt small animals. Brown bears that live near the coast feed on fish, particularly salmon. These bears will grow much larger than others because of their protein rich diet.

The female bear will hibernate all winter long, not even waking up to give birth! Cubs remain with their mothers for 2-4 years.

Brown bears in the wild can live for 20 to 30 years, although most brown bears die in their first few years of life. In captivity, brown bears have been known to live up to 50 years.

Brown bears have keen senses of hearing and smell, but poor eyesight. They can run up to 35 miles per hour (or 55 km/h). Brown bears are very good swimmers.

Brown bears can lose up to 40% of their body weight during hibernation. Brown bears are often regarded as one of the more aggressive species of bear.

<http://www.kidzone.ws/lw/bears>

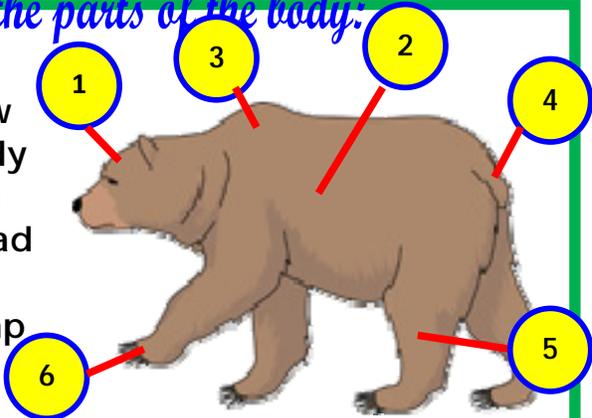
### True or False:

1. Brown bears are spread all over the world.
2. The colouring of brown bears can be different.
3. They can weigh 800 kg.
4. They eat leaves and birds.
5. Brown bears can eat fish.
6. They hibernate in winter.
7. They run up to 60 miles per hour.
8. They live up to 30 years in the wild.

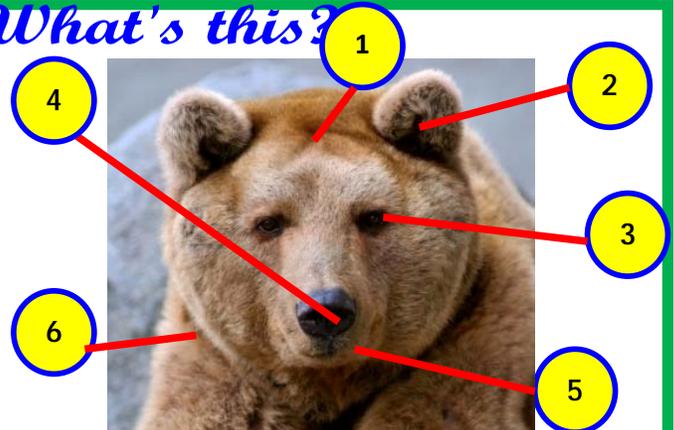


Name the parts of the body:

- a. Paw
- b. Body
- c. Leg
- d. Head
- e. Tail
- f. hump



What's this?



KEY:

## True or False:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Brown bears are spread all over the world.     | T |
| 2. The colouring of brown bears can be different. | T |
| 3. They can weigh 800 kg.                         | F |
| 4. They eat leaves and birds.                     | F |
| 5. Brown bears can eat fish.                      | T |
| 6. They hibernate in winter.                      | T |
| 7. They run up to 60 miles per hour.              | F |
| 8. They live up to 30 years in the wild.          | T |

## Name the parts of the body:

1. - d
2. - b
3. - f
4. - e
5. - c
6. - a

## What's this?

1. - a head
2. - an ear
3. - an eye
4. - a nose
5. - a mouth
6. - a neck