

1

Answer the following questions in your own words.

1. Name a few mammals that swim in the oceans. **whales, dolphins, seals**
2. The only mammals that can fly are **bats**
3. Name a few features that make mammals different from other animals. **females feed babies with milk, mammals have hair or fur, mammals are warm-blooded, mammals have a well-developed brain, mammals protect their babies more than other animals**
4. Which mammals are used as transport animals? **camels, horses, donkeys, cows ...**
5. For which valuable material are elephants hunted ? **tusks, ivory**
6. When did the first mammals evolve ? **about 200 million years ago**
7. Monotremes are mammals that **lay eggs**
8. The largest group of mammals are the **placentals**
9. Mammals use their body colour to **blend in with their surrounds; protect and defend themselves**
10. What are glands ? **organ of the body that produces hormones and other substances**
11. Mammals can stand or walk because they have a **backbone / spine**
12. What is the digestive system ? **the way food is broken up and passes through your body**
13. How do dolphins and whales breathe ? **through a hole in the top of their back**
14. How do bats navigate ? **through sounds**
15. What are primates ? **highly intelligent mammals like humans, apes, monkeys etc..**
16. Name a few plant-eating mammals. **deer, cow, elephant, panda**
17. Name a few meat-eating mammals. **dog, lion, tiger, wolf**
18. Which mammals spend most of their life underground ? **gophers, moles**
19. How do mammals reproduce ? **male sperm fertilizes a female egg**
20. Where do most of the world's marsupials live ? **Australia**
21. Why do some mammals hibernate ? **they can't find enough food to survive**
22. In which way do Arctic foxes change the color of their fur ? **brown in the summer and white during the winter**

2

Multiple Choice Test

Choose the correct answer for each question.

1. **Omnivores are mammals that eat**

- a. only meat.
- b. plants and leaves.
- c. only plants.
- d. both meat and plants.**

2. **Which animals use a special sound system to navigate ?**

- a. primates.
- b. bats and dolphins.**
- c. whales and seals.
- d. kangaroos and wombats.

3. **What do glands produce?**

- a. eggs.
- b. sperm.
- c. hormones.**
- d. red blood cells.

4. **When did the first mammals evolve?**

- a. when the Earth was created.
- b. during the last Ice Age.
- c. when dinosaurs roamed the Earth.
- d. during the Mesozoic period.**

5. **Whales migrate to warmer water to**

- a. raise their body temperature.
- b. get away from whale hunters.
- c. find other whales.
- d. give birth to babies.**

6. **What do poachers hunt elephants for?**

- a. fat.
- b. tusks.**
- c. skin.
- d. trunk.

7. **Arctic foxes**

- a. defend themselves with needles.
- b. change the colour of their fur.**
- c. hide in trees.
- d. spray a bad-smelling liquid towards their attackers.

8. **What do giant pandas eat?**

- a. rice and corn.
- b. meat.
- c. bamboo.**
- d. insects.

3

Match the words on the left with the definitions on the right.

A	poacher	D	the hard, smooth, yellow material from the teeth of elephants
B	weed	M	organ of the body that produces sweat, milk and hormones
C	domesticate	A	person who catches or shoots an animal illegally
D	ivory	G	to die out
E	fertilizer	J	to take air in with your lungs
F	pouch	H	the soft, thick hair that covers an animal
G	become extinct	P	gas that has no colour or smell and which we need to breathe
H	fur	L	the row of bones down the centre of the back
I	brain	F	pocket of skin in an animal
J	breathe	N	member of a group of animals that includes humans and monkeys
K	hoof	B	wild plant that prevents crops from growing the right way
L	spine	Q	arm or leg
M	gland	K	hard foot of a cow, horse, or camel
N	primate	C	to train an animal so that it can work or be a pet
O	digest	E	substance that is put into the soil to make plants grow
P	oxygen	O	to change the food you have eaten into substances that the body can use
Q	limb	I	organ inside your head that controls the way you move, feel and think

MAMMALS – KEY

4

TRUE or FALSE. Decide if the sentences are True or False and tick them off (✓). If the sentence is false write a correct statement into the box on the right. The first TWO have been done for you.

		T	F	Correct Statement
1	Marsupials carry their babies in pouches	✓		
2	Bats use their sense of sight to navigate.			Bats have a special sound system that they use to navigate.
3	Mammals have a large and well-developed brain.	✓		
4	Mammals can change their body temperature depending on which climate zone they live in.		✓	Mammals are warm-blooded and always have the same body temperature.
5	The first mammals that appeared on earth were even larger than most dinosaurs.		✓	They were rather small.
6	Whales belong to the group of primates.		✓	Primates are humans, monkeys, and apes.
7	Carnivores are animals that eat other animals.	✓		
8	Most mammals live on land.	✓		
9	Only mammals with four legs have backbones.		✓	No, mammals are vertebrates. They all have backbones.
10	When an animal hibernates, their body temperature goes up.		✓	Body temperature and heartbeat fall.
11	Elephants carry their unborn babies for almost two years.	✓		
12	Plant-eating mammals have a complex digestive system	✓		
13	Zebras and other wild animals do not migrate.		✓	They always move to rainy regions to find food.
14	Most female mammals lay eggs.		✓	Only the platypus lays eggs.
15	Glands are organs that produce blood to survive.		✓	Glands produce hormones, sweat and milk.

5

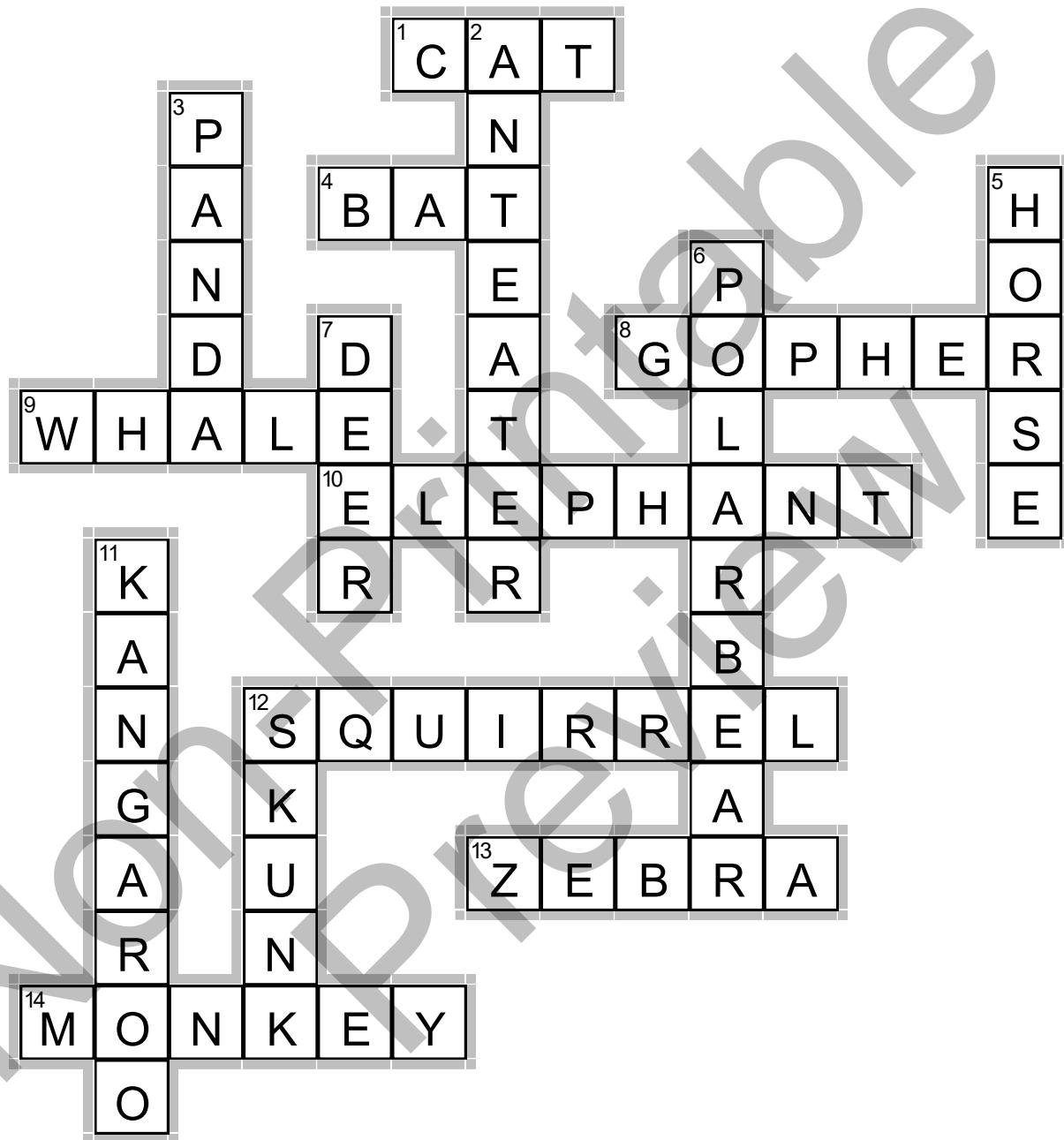
Facts about mammals. Complete the sentences with the correct word from the box.

backbone - bats - digestive - domesticated - extinct - fertilizer - glands - herbivores - hibernate - hoofs - marsupials - Mesozoic - migrate - omnivores - poachers - primates - reproduce - senses - sight - tail

1. Some mammals like squirrels **hibernate** during the winter months
2. The first mammals emerged during the **Mesozoic** period.
3. As time went on, many mammals were **domesticated** and helped humans with their work.
4. Animals that eat plants are called **herbivores**.
5. Humans, apes and monkeys belong to a species of mammals called **primates**
6. Female mammals have **glands** that produce milk.
7. Mammals that raise their young ones in pouches are called marsupials .
8. **Poachers** are hunters who hunt animals illegally and sell their body parts
9. **Bats** are the only mammals that can fly
10. The waste of mammals is used as **fertilizer** that improves the quality of the soil.
11. Mammals have five **senses** that tell them what is happening in the world around them.
12. Some mammals have horns, claws and **hoofs**.
13. The woolly mammoth is a mammal that became **extinct** during the Ice Age
14. Mammals swallow food and chew it before it gets into the **digestive** system.
15. The **backbone** allows a mammal to walk
16. Kangaroos hop around and use their **tail** for balancing.
17. Bats have a poorly developed sense of **sight** .
18. **Omnivores** , like humans, are mammals that eat plants and meat.
19. Mammals **reproduce** when male sperm connects with a female egg
20. Many mammals **migrate** to other places at different times of the year

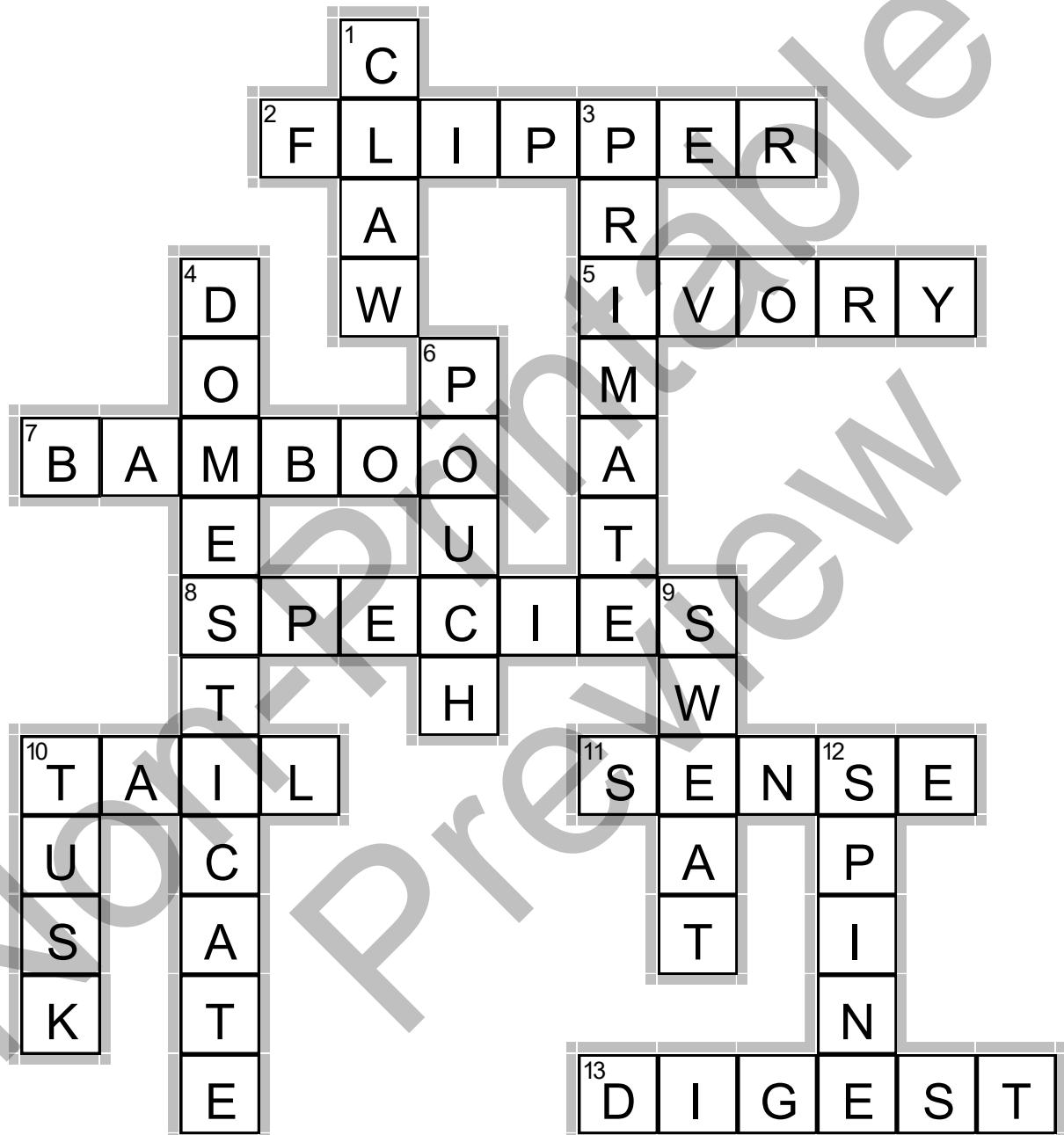
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Crossword 1



7

Crossword 2



8

Find 12 words about mammals in the grid below.



9

Complete the text by filling in the missing words from the box.

Mammals are animals that feed their young ones with (1) **milk** . They live in all regions of the world. Mammals are different from other creatures in many ways. They have (2) **fur** or hair-like skin and their body temperature always stays the same. Mammals, especially (3) **primates** , have a (4) **brain** that is well-developed. They protect their babies and prepare them for future life.

Through the ages, many mammals have been (5) **domesticated** . Some are kept as pets, others are used to doing heavy work , like ploughing the fields or transporting goods. Some mammals are hunted by (6) **poachers** who sell their valuable body parts.

Female mammals carry babies in their bodies until they are born. After birth, (7) **glands** produce milk to feed the small ones. In some cases, newly born mammals can walk or run alone shortly after birth.

Plant-eating mammals , or (8) **herbivores** , have a complicated digestive system with long (9) **intestines** . Meat-eaters do not chew so much. The food passes through their body more quickly.

Mammals have a widely developed range of (10) **senses** . Bats, for example, use their hearing sense to find their way around. Humans and apes can see very well. Cats have (11) **whiskers** with which they feel through darkness.

Marsupials are Australian mammals that carry their babies in (12) **pouches** in their skin until they are ready to live alone. Kangaroos and (13) **wombats** belong to this group. Only few mammals lay eggs, from which babies (14) **hatch** . The (15) **platypus** and echidna belong to this group.

Some mammals , like squirrels, (16) **hibernate** during the cold part of the year because they cannot get enough food during the wintertime. Others (17) **migrate** to other areas in order to survive. Arctic whales, for example, travel to the warm waters of the Californian coast to have babies, because they would not be able to (18) **survive** in the cold waters of the north.

The first mammals appeared during the Mesozoic era. They were small at first . After the (19) **dominant** dinosaurs died out about 65 million years ago mammals became bigger and bigger and ruled the continents. During the Ice Age many mammals, like the (20) **mammoth** , became extinct.

milk
fur
primates
brain
domesticated
poachers
glands
herbivores
intestines
senses
whiskers
pouches
wombats
hatch
platypus
hibernate
migrate
survive
dominant
mammoth

10

Choose the correct word or phrase for each blank.

Why mammals stopped growing

After the age of dinosaurs had ended about 65 million years ago mammals became the largest animals to (1) **roam** the earth. Rhinos and elephants however were much larger than they are today. Huge mammals weighed almost 17 tons. The biggest mammal of our (2) **age**, the African elephant, by comparison, weighs only about 6.5 tons.

When dinosaurs were on earth mammals were small (3) **creatures** that stayed the same in size for over 150 million years. The journal Science (4) **claims** that after dinosaurs had become (5) **extinct**, mammals became larger and larger but then stopped growing.

In the 1990s, a French team (6) **discovered** prehistoric fossils in Baluchistan, the area between Iran, Afghanistan, and Pakistan. The fossils belonged to an extinct hornless rhinoceros, the Baluchitherium, which lived about 40 million years ago. It was 5 meters tall and had the (7) **size** of three elephants.

Scientists are not sure how mammals got that big. During the age of dinosaurs, they often had to fight for food and (8) **served** as food for the giant reptiles themselves.

When the dinosaurs (9) **disappeared** nobody was there to eat the leaves of trees and plants. For the first time, mammals had plenty of food to eat.

Why mammals stopped growing is still a (10) **mystery**. One theory claims that continents became smaller and there wasn't enough land (11) **available**. According to other experts, a colder climate led to the death of dinosaurs. Mammals grow best in cold weather because bigger animals can (12) **conserve** the heat better.

1	settle	travel	roam	walking
2	age	years	phase	stage
3	organisms	lives	individuals	creatures
4	explores	claims	calls	demands
5	extinct	exotic	died out	vanished
6	explained	invented	determined	discovered
7	growth	amount	range	size
8	helped	suffered	served	worked
9	disappeared	missing	wiped out	departed
10	legend	mystery	unknown	strange
11	capable	existing	available	presented
12	save	protect	support	conserve