

STUDY QUESTIONS

TO “THESE DOGS ARE WILD”

Study and learn facts and ideas based on this Young Naturalists nonfiction story in *Minnesota Conservation Volunteer*, January-February 2021, mndnr.gov/mcvmagazine.

Minnesota Conservation Volunteer magazine is your guide to wild things. Every other month, six times a year, the magazine arrives in your school library. Each one has a story for Young Naturalists like you. **Are you curious about wild things?** Young Naturalists tells true stories that can answer all kinds of questions such as these—

Have you ever heard of a purple wartyback? How about a pink heelsplitter, pimple-back, or monkeyface? All are Minnesota freshwater mussels. Read Young Naturalists stories to learn which species (kinds) of critters live in Minnesota—frogs, salamanders, snakes, wild cats, wild dogs, weasels, mice, and rabbits.

Want to **peek inside the den of a red fox** and see how the kits grow up? Are you a rock hound searching for agates? Have you ever wondered what’s alive under snow? How animals see? Why is a bluebird blue? How birds fly?

Would you like to hear the true story of **giants of the ice age**? Young Naturalists also tells you about the underground universe. You can read the story of a tiny owl that went to a hospital with an injured wing. Find out about a boy who worked in a logging camp. Read the story of Ojibwe children today hunting and gathering like their ancestors did.

Learn how to get started **camping, snowshoeing, ice fishing, or canoeing**.

Find these stories and more online on the [Young Naturalists page](http://mndnr.gov/young_naturalists).
(mndnr.gov/young_naturalists)

Your knowledge of wild things helps you explore and enjoy the outdoors. Have fun!

“THESE DOGS ARE WILD” STUDY QUESTIONS

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1. HOW MANY SPECIES OF WILD DOGS ARE THERE IN THE WORLD?

2. WHAT ARE TWO SENSES THAT ARE ESPECIALLY WELL-DEVELOPED IN DOGS?

3. WHERE ARE SCENT GLANDS LOCATED IN A DOG?

- a. Inside its long snout
- b. Under its tail
- c. In its poop
- d. In its wet nose

4. WHICH WILD CANID IS MOST SIMILAR TO DOMESTIC DOGS?

- a. gray wolf
- b. coyote
- c. red fox
- d. gray fox

5. HOW DO GRAY WOLVES PROTECT THEIR TERRITORY?

- a. By peeing and pooping
- b. With guard hairs
- c. By howling
- d. By squeaking
- e. a & c
- f. a & b

6. TRUE OR FALSE: WOLVES CAN GO MONTHS WITHOUT EATING.

7. NAME THREE ADAPTATIONS THAT HELP GRAY WOLVES THRIVE IN MINNESOTA'S COLD AND SNOWY WINTER.

8. WHAT ARE THREE WAYS COYOTES AND WOLVES ARE DIFFERENT?.

9. TRUE OR FALSE: COYOTES HAVE ONE DISTINCT CALL.

10. PUT THE FOLLOWING STEPS IN RAISING YOUNG FROM FIRST TO LAST:

The parents start feeding the pups solid food.

The mother gives birth to the pups.

The parents start to teach the pups to hunt.

11. MATCH THE SPECIES TO THE TRAIT:

Gray wolf Can climb trees

Coyote Come in a variety of colors

Red fox Has the best sense of hearing of any wild dog

Gray fox Minnesota's largest canid

12. NAME THREE ANIMALS THAT EAT CANIDS.

CHALLENGE: APPROXIMATELY WHAT PERCENT OF THE 36 CANIDAE SPECIES LIVE IN MINNESOTA?

MINNESOTA COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENTS PRACTICE ITEMS

1. NAME FOUR TRAITS THAT HELP DOGS BE GOOD PREDATORS.

2. WHAT ARE THREE WAYS COYOTES AND WOLVES ARE SIMILAR?

3. NAME MINNESOTA'S FOUR WILD CANIDS IN ORDER OF ADULT SIZE, FROM SMALLEST TO BIGGEST.

4. WHICH MINNESOTA CANIDS HOWL?

a. wolves

b. wolves and foxes

c. wolves and coyotes

d. all four species

VOCABULARY

Aggression – behavior aimed at dominating or harming another

Companionship – friendship

Descended from – had as ancestors

Domestic – tame

Elaborate – complex

Omnivore – an animal that eats both plants and animals

When animals show **aggression**, they show

Behavior aimed at dominating or harming another is known as

Another word for **companionship** is

Another word for **friendship** is

When an animal **descends** from other animals, it

When an animal **has other animals as its ancestors**, it

Domestic animals are

Tame animals are

An **elaborate object** is one that is

A **complex** object is

Omnivores eat

Animals that eat **both plants and animals** are called

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