

**Adventures in Learning
All About Black Bears
Curriculum Guide grades K-2**



Objectives:

Language Arts

- Tell a story using prior knowledge
- Organize ideas/facts into a fictional story or song
- Write music and stories

Science

- Understand physical characteristics and adaptations of animals
- Understand habitats of different types of animals

Social Studies

- Understand concept of a region and state
- Know states that share a border with home state

Mathematics

- Apply addition and subtraction
- Apply problem-solving skills to solve word problems

Vocabulary:

Omnivore – eats both plants and animals

Hibernate – to become inactive or in a resting state

Habitat – the place where a plant or animal naturally lives

Paw – padded foot of an animal

Den – place a bear sleeps during the winter

Nose – uses these to smell

Ears - uses these to hear



Educator Series Connections:

The following activities are ideas and applications taken from sessions of the Educator Series. These are the live professional growth opportunities available through the 21st Century Learning calendar.

100% Participation

Either before or after participating in the All About Black Bears Adventure in Learning, engage students in the following activity. Tell students you will ask them a question about Black Bears. You will give the class enough time for each student to formulate a response before asking students to share answers.

Ask the students to think of one word that describes black bears. Tell students to think of their answer and then place their hand palm down on their desk. Wait until all students have placed their palm face down, then call on several students to share responses as they will have different answers. Make a class list of these descriptive words.

If students participate in this activity before participating in All About Black Bears Adventure in Learning, they can add to the list after the session. This activity can provide pre-assessment for the following activity to make sure all students are prepared to be successful.

Differentiated Instruction:

Students will complete this assignment after participating in the All About Black Bears Adventure in Learning.

Assignment:

Students may choose to

1. Write a story or make a picture book that tells a story about a black bear.
2. Create a song that includes factual information about the black bear. Students may choose to use a melody from a song they know such as Mary Had A Little Lamb.

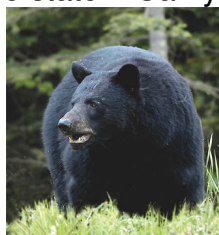
Give clear and concrete expectations for the assignment. For example tell students they must include at least three physical characteristics, and one vocabulary word. Encourage students to be creative. They may choose to add additional tasks to the assignment which is motivating and differentiated also known as a “work up”.

Determine what students must know and understand to successfully complete the assignment they choose. For example: what bears eat, where they live, predators, behaviors, etc. You may review the information students learned in the All About Black Bears Adventure in Learning. You may also give this assignment to students before they participate in the Adventure in Learning so they can ask questions during the session to help them with the task.

Cross-Curricular Connections

For younger students have them draw pictures after you read the question to help them solve. For older students, ask them to explain how they knew to either add or subtract.

1. If a black bear gives birth to two cubs one year and 3 cubs two years later, how many cubs has the mother given birth to?
2. If a male black bear weighs 350 pounds and a female black bear weighs 250 pounds, how much more does the male bear weigh?
3. Black bears are found in every state in the United States. That means a bear might wander in your state from a neighboring state. How many U.S. states share a border with your home state? Can you name those states?



Critical Thinking Skills:

After participating in the All About Black Bears Adventure in Learning ask students to discuss and respond to the following questions with the class.

1. What information did you learn in All About Black Bears Adventure in Learning that surprised you the most? Explain why.
2. Choose one of the following sentences to complete.

Black bears are like flowers because _____.

Black bears are like a sandwich because _____.

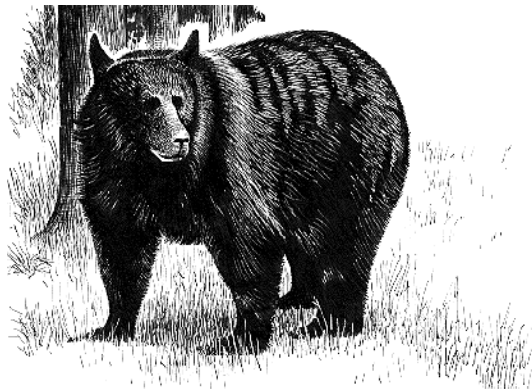
Black bears are like a human because _____.

Websites:

<http://www.bear.org/>

http://www.bear.org/Kids/KA_Home.html

http://www.defenders.org/wildlife_and_habitat/wildlife/black_bear.php



Black Bears Crossword Puzzle

1				2	
			3		
			5		
4					

ACROSS

1. a bear's hand
3. covers a bear's body
4. black bears climb these

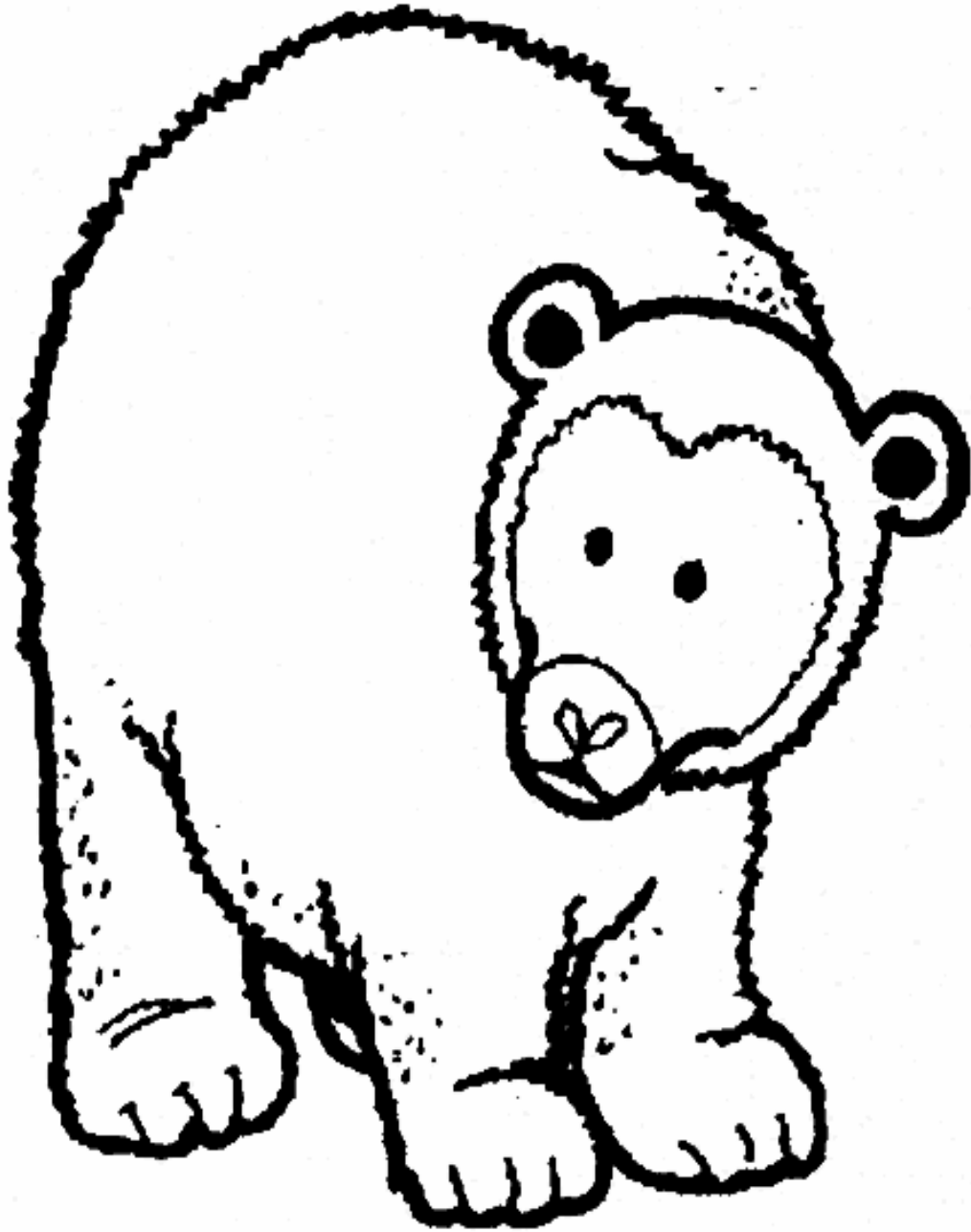
DOWN

1. black bears mostly eat these
2. a young bear
5. place where bears hibernate

Circle your answer.

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----|----|
| Are all black bears black? | Yes | No |
| Do black bears live in your state? | Yes | No |

Black Bear



Draw pictures of 3 things this bear might eat.