

Mountain animals

Mountain animals have to adapt to survive in a very harsh environment.



Q1. On the drawing above write the names of three common large wild animals found in mountains.

Q2. Deer eat plants. Why does each deer need a large area for grazing?

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Q3. Mountain lions depend on small mammals, such as mountain hares, goats and small deer, for their food. Why do mountain areas have few mountain lions?

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Q4. When winter begins, some large mammals move down from the mountains to escape the worst of the winter. What do other animals do?

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Q5. Name one of the birds shown in the drawing above, and explain how it has adapted to living in the mountains.

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Answers

Notes

The theme of this spread is the food chain.

1. Bear, deer, wolf, mountain lion, mountain goat, lynx etc.

2. Because plants are small and grow slowly, and deer have to cover a large area to find sufficient food.

Because the amount of vegetable matter is small, the number of grazing animals is reduced and so the number of hunters is also small.

You might care to introduce this idea by drawing a simple food pyramid.

3. Because their prey is quite scarce (see 2 above).

4. Hibernate

5. Eagles and condors soar high in order to be able to scan a large area for prey.

Ptarmigan change colour to be camouflaged against hunters. They feed on seeds and plants. In winter they adapt by scratching down through the snow. (Such adaptations are only possible where the snow cover is thin.)