# Biology: Scavenger Hunt

# **ANSWER KEY**

**Exercise: 1** 

**Instructions:** You will participate in a scavenger hunt activity. In this hunt, you will receive packets of questions, identification clues, etc. You will search the Digital Atlas for answers. For this activity you will primarily use the Biology section of the Digital Atlas of Idaho. The question packets include the following sections within the biology section of the Digital Atlas: Butterflies, Amphibians, Reptiles, Birds, Mammals, and Plants.

### **Research Questions:**

- 1. True toads belong to which genus and are identified by what three characteristics? The Genus is Bufo. Three characteristics include No teeth in upper jaw, Bidders Organ, and heavy, ossified skulls.
- 2. List the common names and of two lizards with the same genus name.

Two lizard in the same genus are the Short-horned lizard and the Desert-horned lizard (Phrynosoma), or the Western Fence lizard and the Sagebrush lizard (Sceloporus).

- 3. How many families of butterflies are found in Idaho? Which family contains 20 species, 1 of which is found in Idaho.
- 8 families in Idaho. Riodinidae has 20 species with only 1 found in Idaho.
- 4. In which portions of the state of Idaho are painted turtles mainly distributed? How big can painted turtles get?

Found in the Northern part of Idaho. They can get 25 cm long.

5. Name five birds considered to be songbirds. Warblers are classified in which order? Answers can vary.

Warblers are classified in the order Passeriformes.

- 6. What does the state ranking of S3 for the bald eagle mean? What does the state ranking of SE for the ring necked pheasant mean?
- S3 means the species is vulnerable (21-100 occurrences). SE means it is an exotic or introduced species
- 7. What is the common name for the only mole species found in Idaho? This mole is fossorial, which means? Is this mole a protected animal? In how many counties in Idaho is this mole found?

The Coast Mole is fossorial, which means it is a burrowing/digging animal. It is protected and found in 2 counties.

- 8. What is the diet of a Pika? The diet of a Pika includes grasses, sedges, flowering plants, and shoots of woody vegetation.
- 9. To which family does the Monarch butterfly belong? As a caterpillar, which part of the milkweed plant does this butterfly feed on?

Monarch butterfly belongs in the Danaidae family. Caterpillars feed on the leaves and flowers of milkweed.

10. Which salamander has eggs that are unpigmented, in groups of grape-like clusters and attached by a single thread? Which other salamander also produces eggs that are unpigmented?

#### Coeur d'Alene Salamander

### "WHO AM I?"

#### Question #1

I am warm-blooded. I have feathers. I am in the order Strigiformes. I am in the family Strigidae. I am a large animal with widely set ear tufts. I live in most forested habitats. I eat a broad diet of other animals, mainly mammals. I am a mottled gray-brown with dark gray horizontal barring. I have a white throat with a tawny face.

I am 46-64cm tall. Who am I? Great Horned Owl

## Question #2

I am cold-blooded. I have wings and antennae. I am in the family Papilionidae. I am an unprotected nongame species. I have a wingspan of 2 ½- 2 ¾" and a tail extending from my hindwing. My upperside in brownish-black with yellow markings (a band of yellow rectangles on my wings). The part of my wings closest to my body is black and hairy. My hindwings have a wide band of blue and an orange spot outlined in black. I live in Holarctic habitats along forests and open hilltops. My caterpillar stage feeds on parsley and sagebrush. Who am I? Old World Swallowtail

#### Question #3

I am cold-blooded. I have moist, glandular skin and a complex life cycle. I am in the order Anura and the family Hylidae. As an adult, I am varying shades of green and brown with a dark eye stripe. I lay my eggs in small clusters of 9-70 eggs. I am only 50mm in length. My call is the familiar "ribbit" sound often used in movies. Males of my species have a gray or black throat pouch. Who am I? Pacific Treefrog

# Question #4

I am cold-blooded. I have dry scaly skin. I am in the order Squamata and the suborder Serpentes. I am in the family Colubridae. I have bronze/copper colored eyes with a vertical pupil. I am mildly venomous. I am nocturnal. I live in desert lowlands with rocky terrains. Who am I? Night Snake

#### Ouestion #5

I get my heat from my surroundings. I am in the order Squamata. I am in a family that contains very large specimens. I am not venomous. I have pelvic spurs. I have a blunt tail. Who am I? Rubber Boa

### Question #6

I am warm-blooded. I have fur. I am in the order Carnivora and the family Felidae. I have long black ear tufts, a short black-tipped tail and a double pointed beard. I can weigh 5.2-18kg. I am found in northern boreal forests. I eat small mammals and birds. I am nocturnal. Who am I? Lynx

# Question #7

I am warm-blooded. I have fur. I am in the order Chiroptera and the family Vespertillionidae. I am very small. My dorsal fur is smoky to yellowish-brown and my face and ears are black. My calcar is not keeled. I prefer to live in deserts with cliffs and canyon walls that are near water. I eat small swarming insects. I flutter when I fly. Who am I? Western Pipistrelle

## Question #8

I am cold-blooded. I have dry, scaly skin. I am in the order Lacertillia and the family Phrynosomatidae. I have a flattened, rounded body. I have long horns on my head and spines on my body. My coloration often matches the surrounding soil. I can get as large as 140mm long. I like loose, sandy soil to burrow in. Who am I? Desert Horned Lizard

## Question #9

I am warm-blooded. I have wings. I am in the order Galliformes and the family Phasianidae. I am gray and tinted with reddish-brown. I have a blackish-brown eye stripe and a whitish face. My bill is dark orange and so is my eye ring. I get my name from the noise I make. I am native to Eurasia but I have been introduced to North America. I feed mainly on seeds and leaves.I live on rocky hillsides and mountain slopes when I conceal my nest on the ground. I like to forage for food in the mid-morning hours. Who am I? Chukar

# Question #10

I am cold-blooded. I have moist, glandular skin. I am in the order Urodela and the family Ambystomatidae. I have a large, rounded snout with small protruding eyes. I lack parotoid glands. I can be found in the eastern and southern parts of Idaho as well as in the western edge of the panhandle anywhere there is water. I lay up to 1000 eggs at a time on submerged vegetation. I am an unprotected nongame species. I am a wide variety of colors (black, tan, olive, yellow) with marbled blotches. Who am I? Tiger Salamander