



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?
2. List the common names and of two lizards with the same genus name.
3. How many families of butterflies are found in Idaho? Which family contains 20 species, 1 of which is found in Idaho.
4. In which portions of the state of Idaho are painted turtles mainly distributed? How big can painted turtles get?
5. Name five birds considered to be songbirds. Warblers are classified in which order? *Answers can vary.*
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?
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?
8. What is the diet of a Pika?
9. To which family does the Monarch butterfly belong? As a caterpillar, which part of the milkweed plant does this butterfly feed on?

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?

“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?

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 is 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?

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?

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?

Question #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?

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?

Question #7

I am warm-blooded. I have fur. I am in the order Chiroptera and the family Vespertilionidae. 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?

Question #8

I am cold-blooded. I have dry, scaly skin. I am in the order Lacertilia 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?

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?

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?