

HOME STUDY SHEET: WILDLIFE IN VA

Do some research and find the answers to the following Virginia wildlife related trivia. Then, use your answers as your word bank for the word search sheet.

SOCIAL DISTANCING ACTIVITY GUIDE



1. This is the bony tissue found extending from the skull of Cervidae (deer-like) critters. It is distinct from the horns of other animals due to its structure and because it is shed and regrown annually.
2. This animal has its own holiday. It is actually a burrowing member of the Sciuridae (squirrel-like) family. It is also known as a woodchuck or whistlepig.
3. There are four species of this type of bird which regularly nest in Virginia. They have excellent eyesight but must rotate their whole head to look sideways, up to 270 degrees. (*answer is plural*)
4. They may look like rodents, but these animals are actually lagomorphs, and one of the most preyed-upon critters in Virginia. The eastern cottontail is the most common example here. (*answer is plural*)
5. This word refers to a survival strategy in which an animal becomes significantly less active when food resources are scarce or environmental conditions aren't ideal (usually during winter).
6. Not counting feral domestic cats, this true predator is the only Felidae (cat-like) wildlife confirmed in Virginia.
7. The males (and sometimes females) of this species of social bird often sport a "beard," which grows throughout the life of the bird.
8. There are two species of skunk in Virginia. The striped version is much more common than the other, called the _____ skunk.
9. Though named for its coat, members of this species in the Canidae (dog-like) family are easily recognized by the black "socks" on the bottom half of their front legs. (*answer is 2 words*)
10. Distinctive in many ways, it's the only marsupial (think kangaroos and koalas) found in Virginia, has the most teeth of any Virginia mammal, and is known for playing dead when threatened.
11. This bird is common throughout all of Virginia, and can be distinguished from the also black-plumed raven by its smaller size, distinctive "caw" noises, and tendency to travel in larger flocks.
12. In Virginia, these animals are well known for burying acorns for later use, and often unintentionally planting new trees when some are not found. Well-known species include the gray, the red, and the fox; but another, less common species is found only on the Delmarva Peninsula.

**Record your answers on the word search's
word bank, found on page two.**

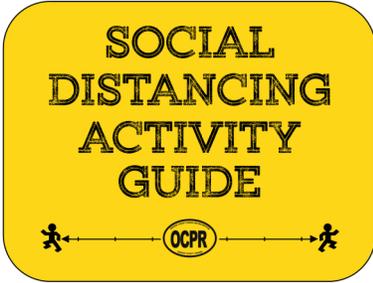
NEED HELP? USE THESE RESOURCES.

- Virginia Department of Game & Inland Fisheries: www.dgif.virginia.gov
 - Audubon Society: www.audubon.org
 - US Fish & Wildlife Service: www.fws.gov

WORD SEARCH: WILDLIFE IN VA

Fill the word bank with your answers to the trivia questions from page one, then find them below.

Words may be written normally, backwards, vertically, upside down, and diagonally (forward and reversed).



1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____

Y S P C U B N V A H X U R L H
 L U B H D E C G C R J L U E I
 T G N O C V E R F O W O R C B
 N R S Q U I R R E L K L H S E
 E O V U W D J K S D L W V D R
 T U R K E Y G J F H F X V R N
 M N T C A S R E O Y H O D F A
 F D G I Y A E C W V A Q X X T
 N H T C B O B T L T E Z M C I
 Y O W B A B R V S N X U U W O
 U G I O E N G N M A P A S K N
 N T N B K J T E V F D R S Y V
 S Q Y C Y D F L B L N L O O M
 B A V A K G I D E T T O P S X
 Y E K T R Q O L K R I U O D S