

STUDY QUESTIONS

TO “ALL CLEAN!”

Study and learn facts and ideas based on this Young Naturalists nonfiction story in *Minnesota Conservation Volunteer*, July-August 2023, www.mndnr.gov/mcvmagazine.

Minnesota Conservation Volunteer magazine is your guide to wild things. Every other month, six times a year, the magazine arrives in your school library. Each one has a story for Young Naturalists like you. **Are you curious about wild things?** Young Naturalists tells true stories that can answer all kinds of questions such as these—

Have you ever heard of a purple wartyback? How about a pink heelsplitter, pimple-back, or monkeyface? All are Minnesota freshwater mussels. Read Young Naturalists stories to learn which species (kinds) of critters live in Minnesota—frogs, salamanders, snakes, wild cats, wild dogs, weasels, mice, and rabbits.

Want to **peek inside the den of a red fox** and see how the kits grow up? Are you a rock hound searching for agates? Have you ever wondered what’s alive under snow? How animals see? Why is a bluebird blue? How birds fly?

Would you like to hear the true story of **giants of the ice age**? Young Naturalists also tells you about the underground universe. You can read the story of a tiny owl that went to a hospital with an injured wing. Find out about a boy who worked in a logging camp. Read the story of Ojibwe children today hunting and gathering like their ancestors did.

Learn how to get started **camping, snowshoeing, ice fishing, or canoeing**.

Find these stories and more online at www.mndnr.gov/young_naturalists.

Your knowledge of wild things helps you explore and enjoy the outdoors. Have fun!

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1. NAME FOUR WAYS IN WHICH CLEANING UP BENEFITS AN ANIMAL.

2. WHICH OF THESE MIGHT AN ANIMAL USE TO CLEAN ITSELF?

- a. beak
- b. tongue
- c. claw
- d. teeth
- e. b & c
- f. all of the above

3. HOW IS A CAT'S SALIVA LIKE SHAMPOO? CIRCLE ALL THAT ARE CORRECT BASED ON THE ARTICLE.

- a. It is liquid.
- b. It is creamy.
- c. It acts like a detergent.
- d. It helps remove dirt.
- e. It smells good.

4. HOW DOES SHAKING BENEFIT A MAMMAL?

5. WHY IS WET FUR A PROBLEM?

6. NAME TWO BENEFITS OF ALLOPREENING.

7. HOW DOES A BAT CLEAN ITS EARS?

8. NAME TWO TECHNIQUES A BEAVER USES TO CLEAN ITSELF.

9. WHY MIGHT A MINNESOTA BEAR BE MORE LIKELY TO SCRATCH ITS BACK ON A TREE IN THE SPRING THAN IN THE FALL?

10. WHAT THREE TRAITS DO TURKEYS AND BISON HAVE IN COMMON THAT MAKES DUST BATHING A SUITABLE STRATEGY FOR STAYING CLEAN?

11. NAME TWO BENEFITS A DUCK GETS FROM PREENING ITS FEATHERS.

12. WHICH IS BIGGER, AN EAGLE'S NEST OR A RED-NECKED GREBE'S NEST?

CHALLENGE QUESTION:

On average, the Great Plains had how many bison wallows per square mile?

MINNESOTA COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENTS PRACTICE ITEMS

1. NAME THREE THINGS A MAMMAL MIGHT WANT TO REMOVE FROM ITS FUR.

2. HOW IS A CAT'S TONGUE LIKE A COMB.

3. HOW DOES A DEER CLEAN ITS FACE?

By licking it.

b. By rubbing it against a tree

c. By scratching it with a back foot

d. By having another deer lick it

4. WHAT COMMON TRAIT DO TEETH, CLAWS, AND HOOVES HAVE THAT MAKE THEM HANDY FOR CLEANING FUR?

5. WHAT DID SCIENTISTS LEARN BY TAKING VIDEOS OF ANIMALS SHAKING?

- a) Shaking is a good way to remove dirt.
- b) The bigger the animal, the faster the shake.
- c) Shaking is a good way to remove water.
- d) Shaking can make an animal hypothermic.
- e) a & b
- f) All of the above.

COMPARE AND CONTRAST HOW TURKEYS AND BISON DUST BATHE. ANSWERS MAY VARY. DIFFERENCES MIGHT INCLUDE THE TYPE OF HABITAT THEY BATHE IN, HOW THEY DISTURB THE DUST, AND HOW THEY POSITION THEIR BODIES. SIMILARITIES MIGHT INCLUDE THE FACT THEY ARE DRY WHEN THEY DO IT AND THAT FACT THAT IT HELPS RID THEM FROM PARASITES.

VOCABULARY

Align – line up

Barbs – a hooked bristle

Evade – escape or avoid

Maneuvers - movements

Moisturize – add liquid to

Mutual – shared with each other

Parasite – a creature that take resources from another living thing without giving bac

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