















IRBIS PAWS















MARKÉTA ŠPAČKOVÁ & IRENA KOCÍ JANA K. KUDRNOVÁ







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BLACK GROUSE

When small snails, worms, ant larvae and beetles hide for the winter deep under the earth, grouse cocks and hens can no longer reach them to eat. They have to settle then for forest fruits and tree seeds. They wait out the coldest period of the year buried under a snow drift in order to avoid unnecessarily wasting energy. As soon as it warms up a bit, it moves elsewhere. You're wondering where? In the spreading branches of birch trees of course! They perch there together and peck here and there on tasty buds. With the arrival of spring, the most important grouse time arises, the mating call. The cocks assume the colour of shining wedding dresses in February and begin to fight with one another before the crack of dawn. This is accompanied by the sounds of hissing, bubbling and shaking.





GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER

This black and white looker with a red cap knows how to handle the winter. It is particulary fond of eating worms, beetles and even pinecone seeds. Even when insects hide from the cold in various kinds of holes and hiding places, even when acorns and lost nuts left behind by squirrels have become buried under the snow, there are still more than enough pinecones on the trees. The Great Spotted Woodpecker and its smaller relatives are pinecone experts ... When it needs to get below the scales to the seeds or break a nut, it wedges it into a crevice or into a split tree stump. The pinecone or nut is stuck fast and soon its beak is full of goodies. As soon as spring knocks on the door, the male woodpecker comes to life. By tapping on trees, it attracts the female woodpecker and drives its rivals away.









IMPIROR PINGUIN

This largest of the penguin family lives in a kingdom of eternal ice at the far end of the world, in Antarctica. It is the only bird which never sets foot on dry land, as everywhere around is only water and ice. Deep inland the penguin mother lays one egg and sets off for the sea! Until her return, the father penguin watches over it and warms the egg in a special pocket. It can be as cold as -40°C outside! The work is demanding, so it's not surprising that it loses some weight. Did you known that young penguins attend kindergarten when they grow older? One adult takes care of the young ones while the rest head out to sea to hunt. The closer the young penguins cuddle, the warmer they are. In the middle is understandably the best, so they alternate regularly, so everyone has a turn ...

Great tits live all throughout Europe. They move from the coldest parts of the continent to warmer regions when winter comes, to areas with a year-round temperate climate; even here, however, they set off on wanderings ... They fly in entire flocks, along with their cousins the eurasian blue tits or the marsh tits, from feeder to feeder. When there are sunflower goodies, they are immediately everywhere! Occasionally amongst them one spots a small bird with an orange belly and a black strip across its eyes, the nuthatch. It is very much aware that winter is easier to survive in good company. English great tits are quite clever at times of need ... They peck holes in milk bottles ... and yum-yum, there's nothing like sweet cream.













O DEER

It prospers in the forests of Europe, Asia and North America and even in North Africa. Male deer and does move to the lowlands in the winter where they wait for spring to arrive in large herds.

2 WILD PIG

They have conquered all of the continents, with the exception of Antarctica of course. They seek out forests and hay-racks in the winter and return back to fields between stalks of corn prior to the summer.

BELK

It wanders the forests and wetlands of Europe, Asia and North America. The North American moose is larger, however, than its relatives in Asia and Europe and also has a little bit different antlers.

4 MUSKOX

This horned giant can be found in Alaska, Greenland and on the Tajmyr Peninsula in Russia. It lives in smaller herds in the summer, but gets together in larger groups of up to 100 in the winter!

6 NORTH AMERICAN PORCUPINE

It lives in the forests of North America in a belt from Alaska all the way to the

north of Mexico. Each porcupine has a fairly small territory which it usually does not abandon and moves within it along the same paths.

6 CANADA LYNX

The lynx is at home in North America. It likes to hunt the snowshoe hare, its favourite prey, in the deep forests of Canada and on the snow-covered plains of Alaska.

• GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER

It nests throughout Europe except for Ireland and Iceland as well as in a mild belt of Asia all the way to Kamchatka. It prospers everywhere there are enough old trees.

BLACK GROUSE

It prospers in Scandinavia, in Siberia and in the mountainous areas of Central Europe. Toward the end of summer, the cocks and hens go their different ways and wait out in groups separately in the autumn.

9 GREAT TIT

They live throughout Europe. Just like the other species of tits, they nest in the hollows of trees and when there is no longer a place, even make a home in a broken pail or in a letter box.

It is at home on the ice fields of the Antarctica and the adjoining islands. Although quicker in the water, it nests on the ice reefs inland, often dozens of kilometres from the sea.

• RED SQUIRREL

It lives in the forest and parks of Europe and Asia. It has a large territory in forests in order to survive, but parks have enough for more squirrels.

D MOLE

You might come across mole hills in meadows, fields and gardens throughout Europe and Asia. The well-behaved mole only remains within its own territory and does not cross the borders of its neighbours.

B EURASIAN OTTER

It prospers throughout Europe, in North Africa and in large parts of Asia. It tends to stick to flowing and standing waters and have its burrow near, often directly, on steep banks or under the roots of trees.

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It is the most well-known predatory fish in Europe. It also prospers, however, in Asia and North America. It body is suited to its predatory way of life enabling it to attack its prey like a torpedo!

D ARCTIC WOLF

It lives in the inhospitable tundra of northern Canada and in the north of Greenland. There is insufficient food and therefore they will even attack a lone muskox as a group in a pack.

6 ARCTIC FOX

It lives in inhospitable areas of the Arctic tundra from Alaska to Greenland all the way to northern Siberia. It can be tough to survive and they therefore often accompany a polar bear and hope it leaves something for them.

OSTOAT

It blends with the snow in the winter in the lands of Europe, Asia and North America. When it's in need of a rest, it hides in its den. This can be in a tree hollow or in an abandoned burrow.

B ARCTIC HARE

It hops across the plains of Greenland and the north of Canada. When a snowstorm hits, the hare digs a burrow in the snow. Sometimes it can be quite crowded there with a number of hares cuddling in one big tangle.

WILLOW PTARMIGAN

It makes its nest in birch and other forest tundra in northern Eurasia, in Alaska and in northern Canada. It waits out the winter in larger flocks which break up again in the spring. They then bring ruffled chicks into the world in pairs.

20 SNOWY OWL

It nests in the tundra throughout Eurasia, in the north of Canada and in Greenland. A shallow scrape directly on the ground serves as its nest. The number of eggs depends on the number of lemmings, when there are a lot of them, the owls have more young.

20 POLAR BEAR

It lives on floating floes in the Arctic Ocean and on the northernmost parts of the Arctic continent. Here it roams its territory and keeps a constant lookout for its main food, seals. Cheeky foxes often follow behind them closely.

2 SNOW LEOPARD

This elegant predator is at home in the mountains of Central Asia. Here it wanders through meadows and rocky plains at high altitudes. It sits and lies in wait for mountain sheep and goats to come and graze and then quickly attacks.

≇HARP SEAL

It lives on the floating ice of the northern Atlantic and the Arctic Ocean. They swim alongside floating ice fields in loud groups. They surface and jump from the water like dolphins.

2 BELUGA WHALE

This white beauty usually swims along the coastal water of Arctic seas and the ocean. It finds it way in muddy waters and during long northern nights like a bat, by means of echolocation.

In which area do the animals live? Follow the colour of each number!

WILD ANIMALS IN THE WINTER WORLD



MARKÉTA ŠPAČKOVÁ & IRENA KOCÍ JANA K. KUDRNOVÁ

Every animal must be properly prepared for winter. A bear feeds itself up before searching far and wide for the best place to make his warm, cosy bed. Heavy snow won't bother him now! And what about the bed of mummy bear, who in the middle of winter will give birth to cubs so tiny and wee that they could fit in the palm of your hand? Can you guess how the mole, the red-capped grouse and the dormouse spend the winter? I bet you can't. Come with us and take a quick look, then! With this book, you will find yourself in an icy kingdom under a cover of snow. It includes three large-format maps which show the reader how animals live through the winter.

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MARNING: CHOKING HAZARD

Small parts. Not suitable for children under 36 months.