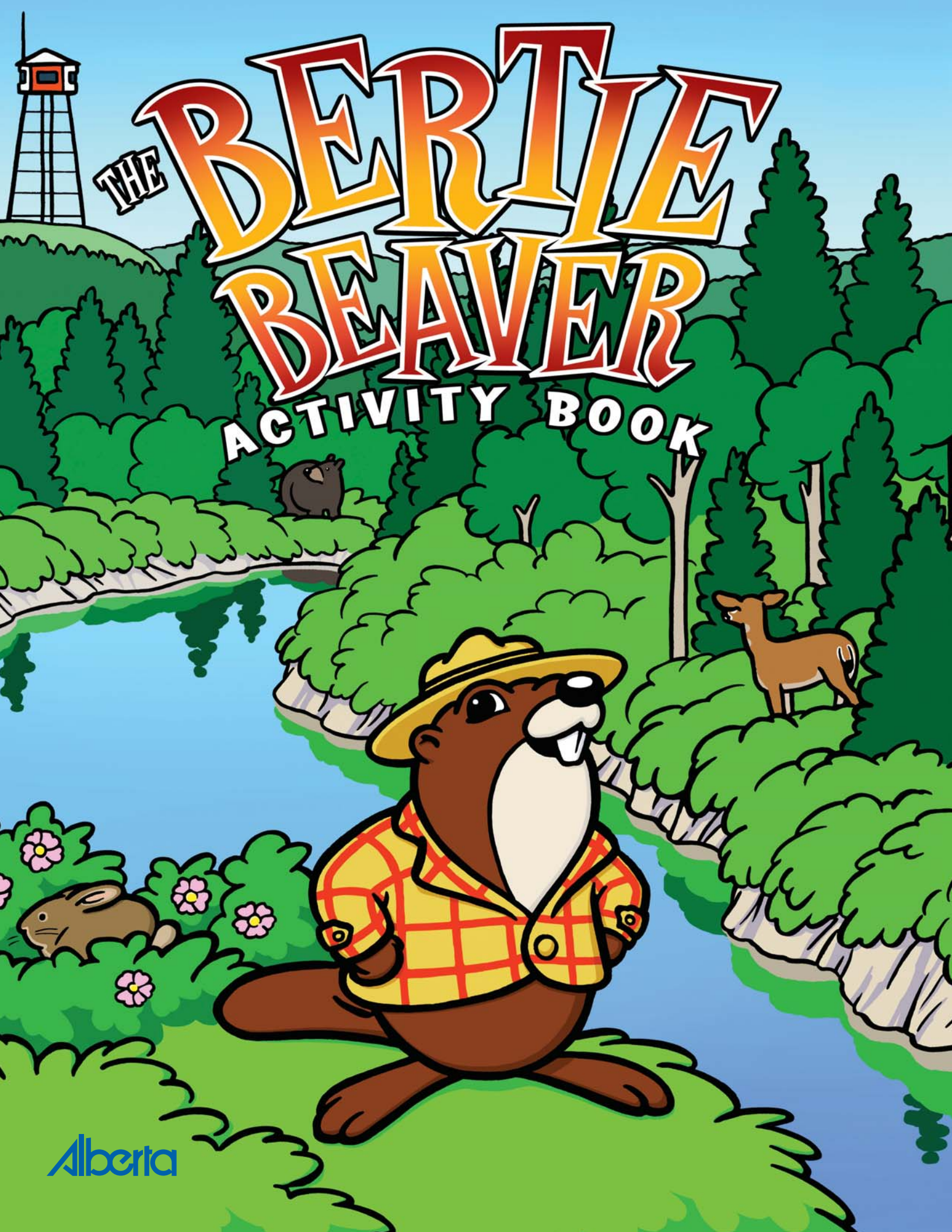


THE

BERTIE BEAVER

ACTIVITY BOOK



THIS BOOK BELONGS TO:

Hey, kids!

Meet Bertie Beaver and his buddy Scout Squirrel.

Bertie Beaver is a Forest Protection Special Agent who delivers important information about protecting Alberta's forests. Scout Squirrel is a Forest Fact Finder who will amaze you with his fun facts.

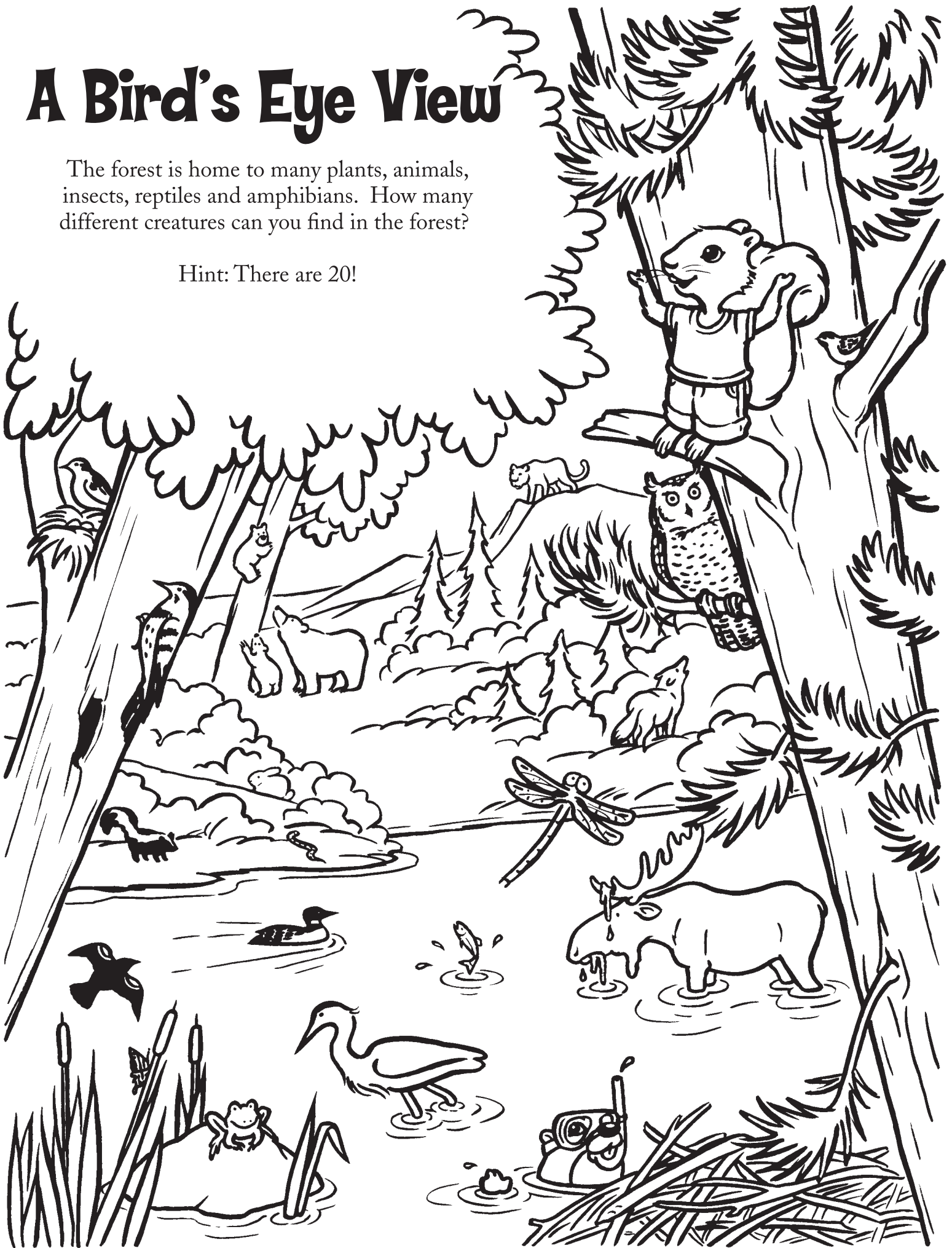
Join Bertie and Scout on their adventures as they explore Alberta's wildlife and forests!



A Bird's Eye View

The forest is home to many plants, animals, insects, reptiles and amphibians. How many different creatures can you find in the forest?

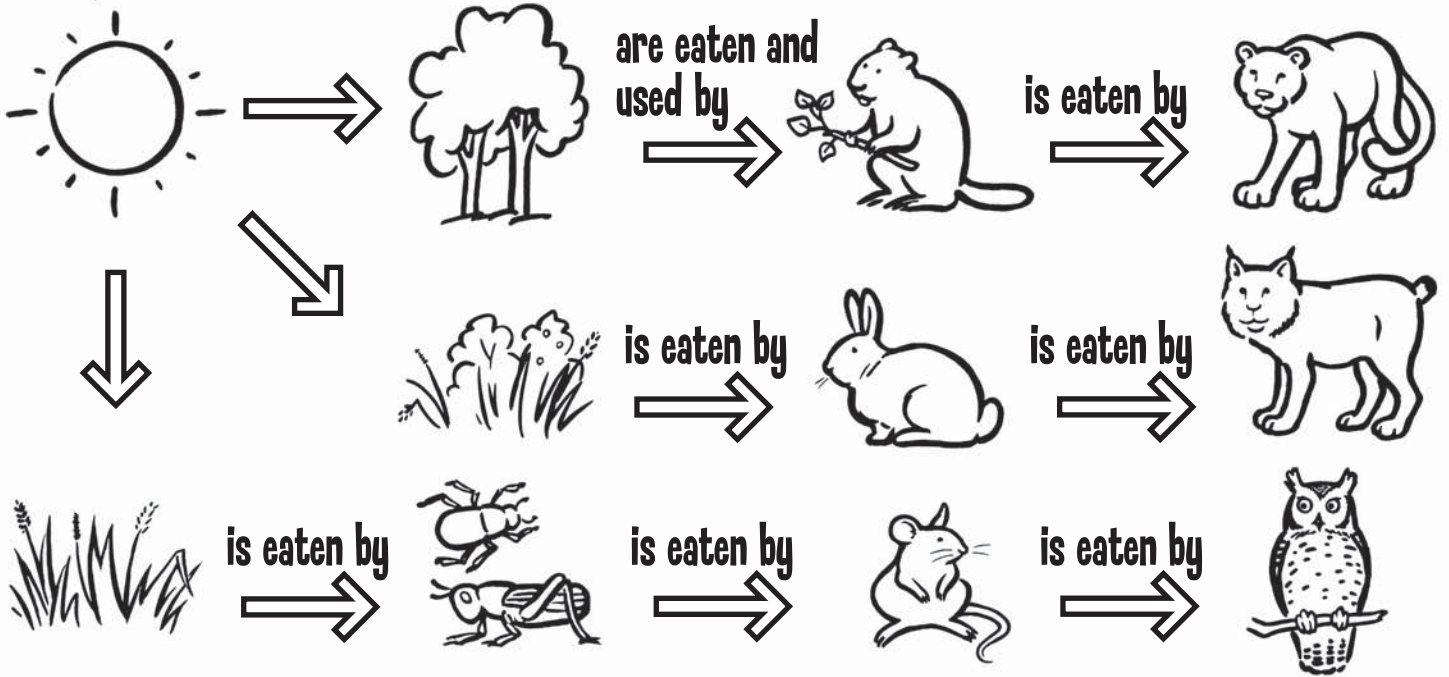
Hint: There are 20!





What's for Dinner?

All living things need food to grow and survive. A food chain shows how each creature gets its food. Some creatures eat plants, some eat animals, and some eat both plants and animals. Check out the food chains below to see who eats what in the forest!



Using the key provided, uncover some of these animals' favorite foods:

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26



American Badger

7 18 15 21 14 4
19 17 21 9 18 18 5 12 19



Peregrine Falcon

4 21 3 11 19



Fisher

16 15 18 3 21 16 9 14 5 19



Black Bear

2 5 18 18 9 5 19



Red Squirrel

16 9 14 5 3 15 14 5 19

Did you know that in a dive, the peregrine falcon may reach speeds over 300 km/hour!

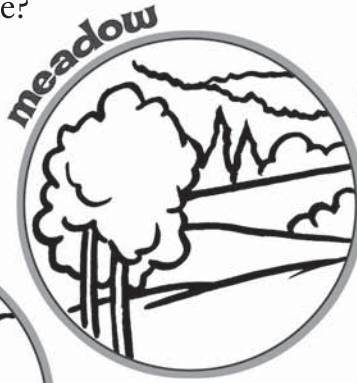


Did you know that a baby beaver is called a kit?

A Forest Home

The forest provides food, water and shelter to a variety of creatures. The place a creature lives is called its habitat, or its home.

Can you match each forest creature to its home?





Wildlife Detective



Although you may not always see animals in the forest, you know that animals have been in the area by the signs they leave behind. Some of these signs include: feathers, fur, nests, holes, bones, chew marks, scat and tracks.

Use your detective skills and the clues provided to help solve the animal track mystery!



1) _ O _ C _ P _ _ E

Clue: This animal climbs trees and loves to eat the twigs, buds and inner bark of trees. Adults are protected from predators by about 30,000 quills.



2) _ O _ G _ R

Clue: You cannot see this animal's claws in its track. It is a large, seldom seen member of the cat family.



3) G _ _ Y _ _ O L _

Clue: This animal is the largest member of the wild dog family. It lives in a family group, known as a pack, and howls to stay in touch with family members.



4) S _ _ W _ _ O E
H _ _ _ E

Clue: This animal is named for its large feet and can run up to 50 km/hour! The Canada Lynx depends on this animal for its dinner.



5) _ O O _ E

Clue: This animal is the largest member of the deer family and is able to move quickly on land, in deep snow and in water.



6) A M _ R _ C _ N
_ E _ V _ R

Clue: This water-loving animal's teeth never stop growing. It has a large, flat tail, webbed hind feet and a waterproof fur coat.



7) R _ _ _
_ Q _ I _ R _ L

Clue: This animal stores spruce and pine cones. It has a bushy tail it uses for balance when leaping between tree branches.



8) R _ F F _ D
G R _ _ _ E

Clue: This is a small, chicken-sized bird. In the spring, you may hear the males making a drumming sound as they beat the air with their wings.

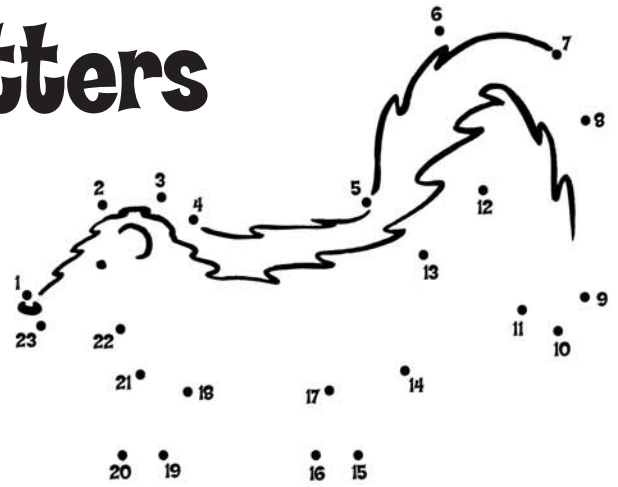
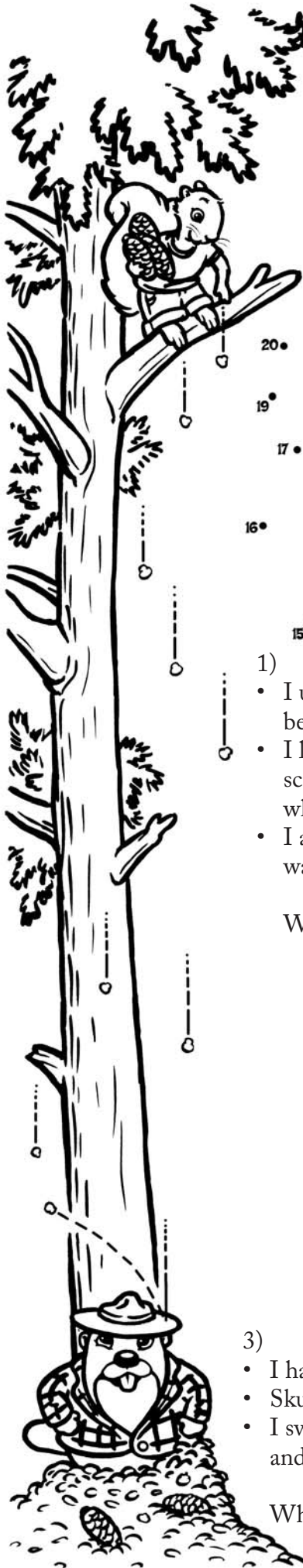


9) M _ L _ _ D _ _ R

Clue: This animal has very large ears, a black-tipped tail and a white rump. You can often find this animal in river valleys, open woodlands and grassland areas.

Cool Critters

Alberta has 500 wildlife species, many of which live in the forest. Read the clues and connect the dots to uncover these cool critters!



- 2)
- I hunt at night and eat insects, mice, fruit, eggs and garbage.
 - When I am scared, I raise my tail and stomp my feet.
 - You do not want to be sprayed by me. If you are, you will have to bathe in tomato juice, lemon juice or vinegar!

Who am I? _____



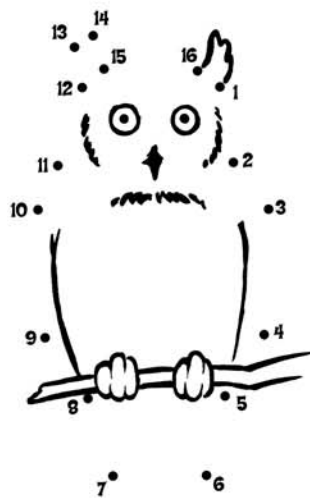
- 1)
- I use my bushy tail for balance as I leap between tree branches.
 - I leave a large pile of cones and cone scales beneath the spruce or pine tree where I have eaten.
 - I am noisy and I may scold you as you walk by!

Who am I? _____



- 4)
- I weigh less than one pound at birth!
 - I climb trees very well, and I like to have an afternoon nap in a tree.
 - I can run short distances faster than a horse, and I like honey!

Who am I? _____



- 3)
- I have excellent vision, but a poor sense of smell.
 - Skunks are one of my favourite foods!
 - I swallow my food whole. I spit out the bones and fur later for you to find!

Who am I? _____

Alberta's Forests

What are you having?



I'm having bark for breakfast.

Read the clue for each native Alberta tree. Using the word bank, fill in the blanks to spell the name of each tree.



7) A _ P _ N
P O _ L _ _
Heart-shaped leaves tremble in the wind.



1) L _ D G _ P _ _ E
_ I _ _
Alberta's provincial tree.



2) B L _ _ K
S P _ U _ E
Usually a very skinny tree that grows in wet areas.

Word Bank

- White Spruce
- Balsam Fir
- White Birch
- Aspen Poplar
- Black Spruce
- Lodgepole Pine
- Tamarack Larch



6) W _ _ _ E B _ R _ H
Makes great firewood and is also known as *paper birch*.



5) B A _ _ A _
F _ _
Makes a great Christmas tree.



4) T A _ A _ A _ _
L A _ _ H
Needles turn bright yellow in autumn when they fall from the tree.



3) W H _ _ E
S _ R _ _ E
Looks like its name only in the winter.

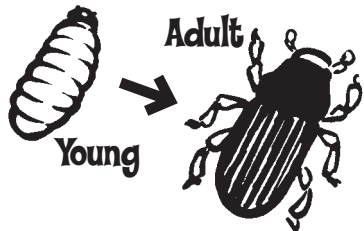
Forests have many uses.

Can you name some of the ways forests are used?



Pest Alert!!

Most insects are not harmful to trees, however some insects can damage and kill trees. Be on the lookout for these forest pests.

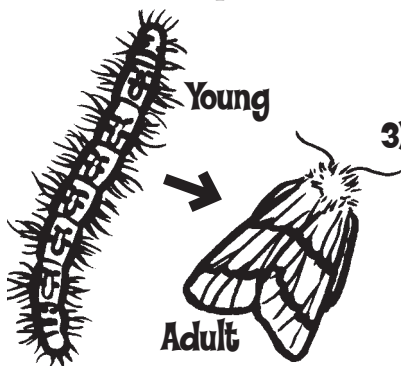
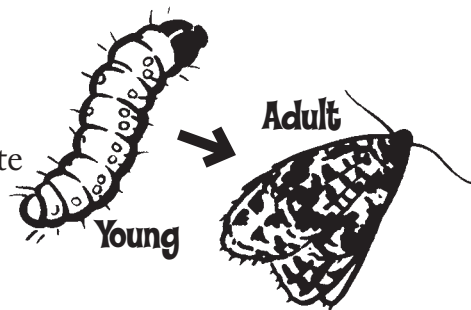


1) Mountain Pine Beetle

Young feed under the bark of lodgepole and limber pine trees.

2) Spruce Budworm

Budworms eat the needles of white spruce and balsam fir trees.

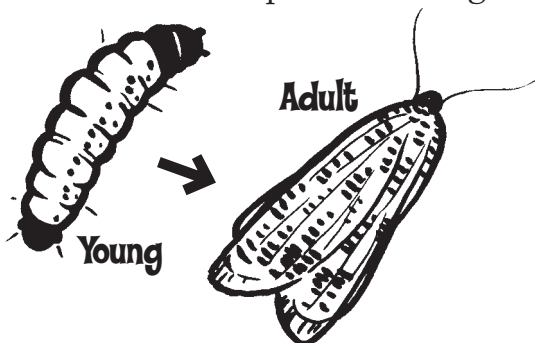
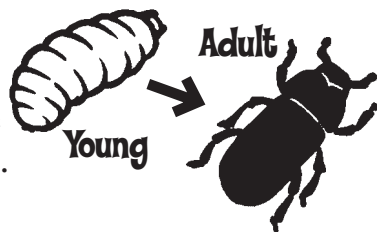


3) Forest Tent Caterpillar

Caterpillars eat the leaves of trembling aspen trees.

4) Spruce Beetle

Young feed under the bark of white spruce and Engelmann spruce trees.



5) Large Aspen Tortrix

Caterpillars eat the leaves of willow, aspen and poplar trees.

Did you know that woodpeckers are natural enemies of the Mountain Pine Beetle and Spruce Beetle?



Wildfires

A wildfire is a fire that burns in forested areas, grass or alpine/tundra vegetation.
Wildfires can be caused naturally or by human activities.

Forest Fact: This is the #1 cause of wildfire in Alberta.



1) _____
G N L H I N T I G



2) _____
W O E R P N I E L

5) _____
R S K A P

Each picture shows one way a wildfire could start. Unscramble the letters to find some of the causes of wildfires.



4) _____
R F M C P A I E



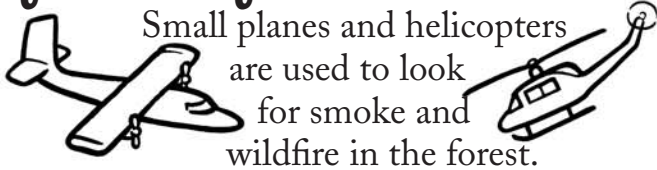
3) _____
N B R U E A L R R B



REMEMBER,
to report a wildfire,
call **310-FIRE.**

Detecting Wildfires

Eyes in the Sky



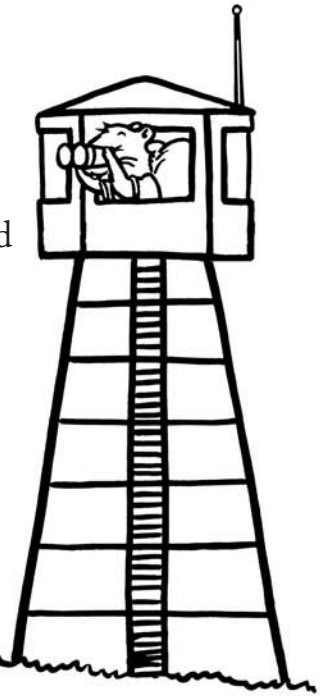
Small planes and helicopters are used to look for smoke and wildfire in the forest.

Looking for wildfires by flying in the sky helps locate wildfires that may not be seen from the ground.

Top of the World

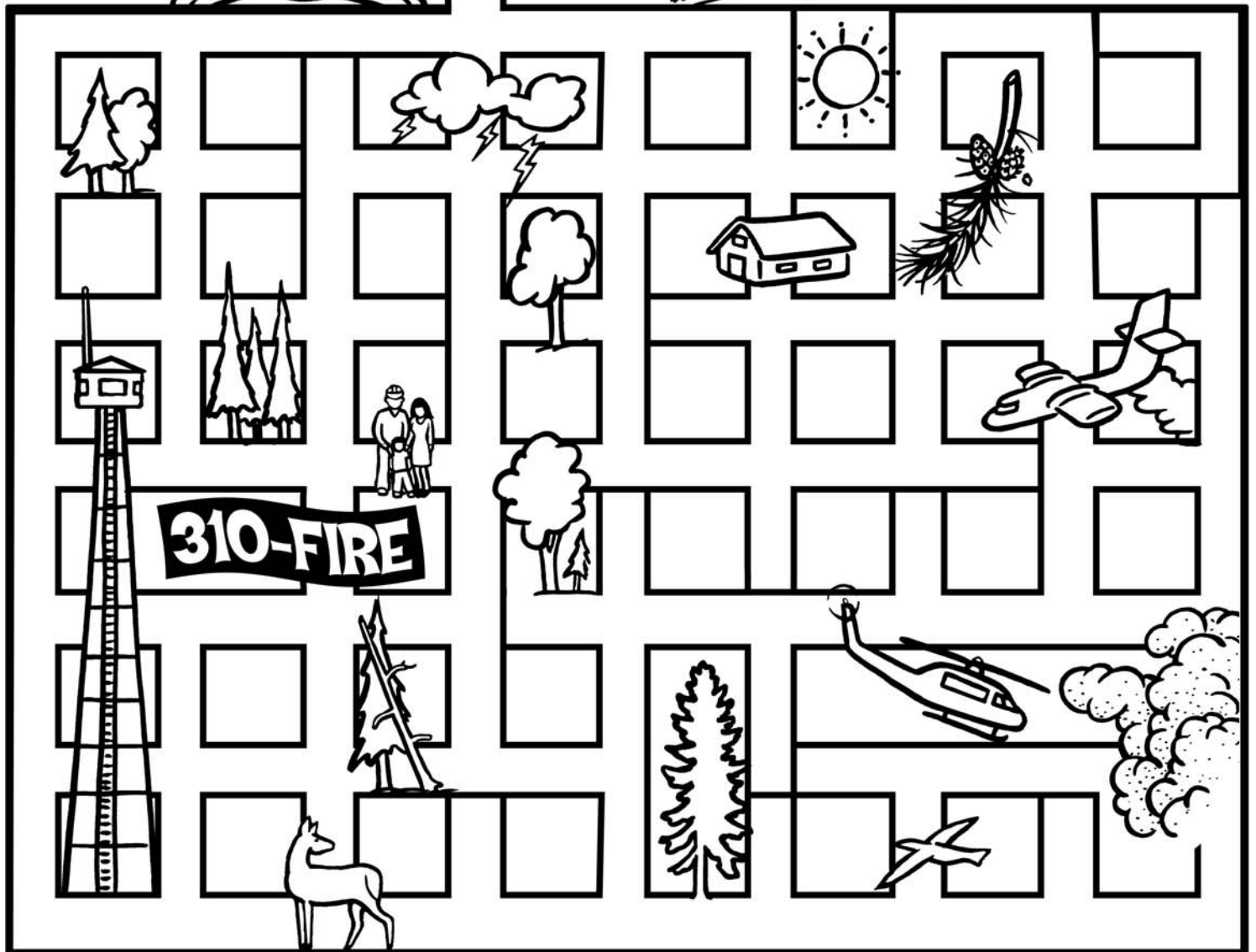
Lookout towers or cabins are found on top of mountains and in forested areas throughout the province.

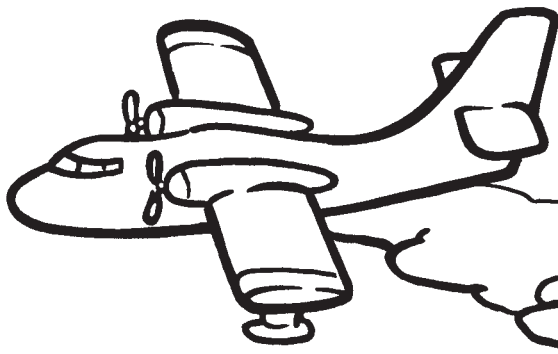
The people who work in lookout towers and cabins look for smoke and wildfire in the forest.



START

Help the lookout person find the smoke in the forest!





Fighting Wildfires

In Alberta, we fight wildfires from the air and from the ground.

How many ways of fighting wildfire do you see?

Airtanker

An airplane that carries and drops water or foam on a wildfire.

Firefighters

Trained men and women work very hard to fight wildfires. To fight a wildfire, firefighters may use water, remove trees and grasses, or make small fires to stop the fire from spreading.

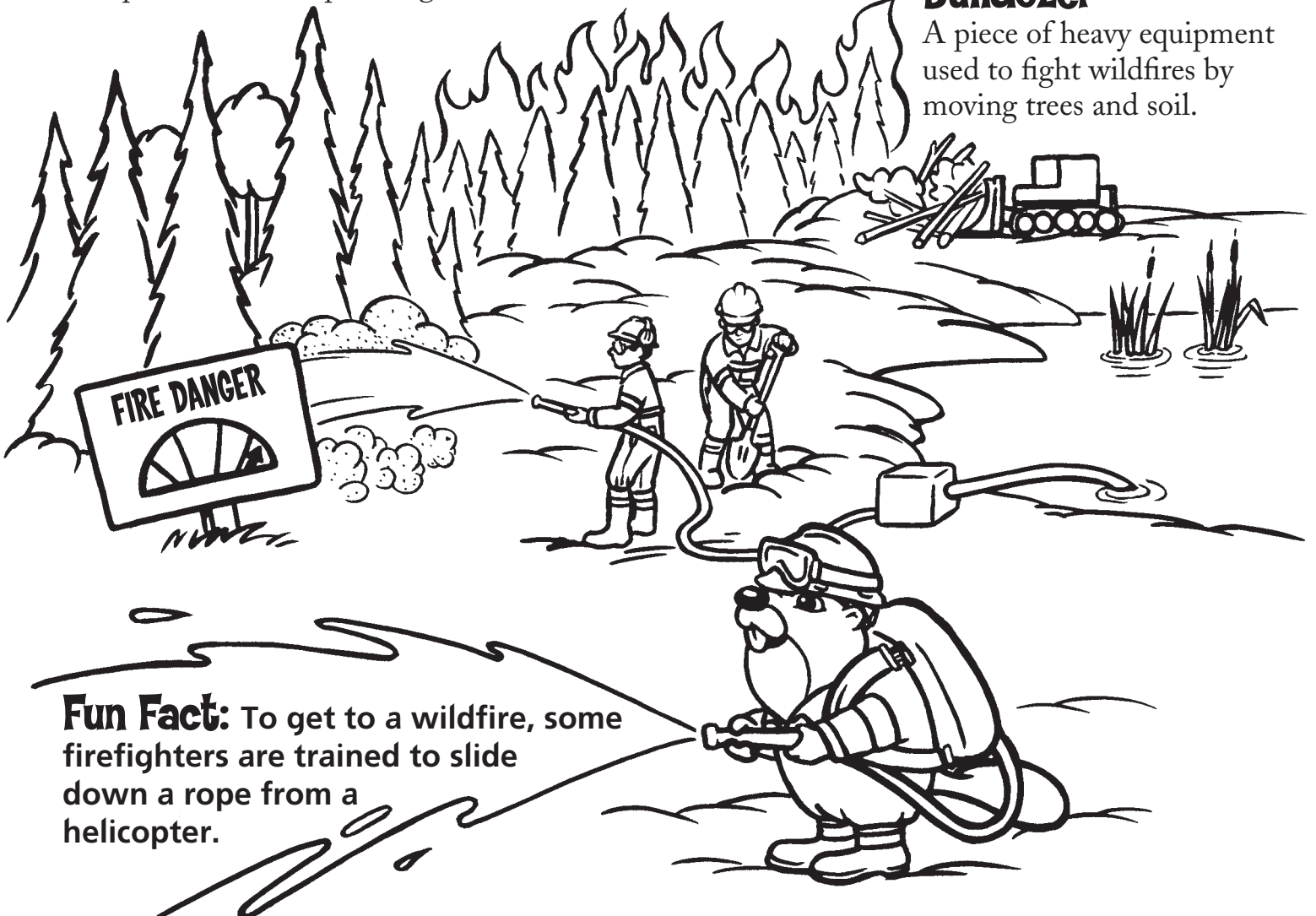


Helicopter

Helicopters with special buckets carry water or a water/foam mixture to drop on the fire.

Bulldozer

A piece of heavy equipment used to fight wildfires by moving trees and soil.



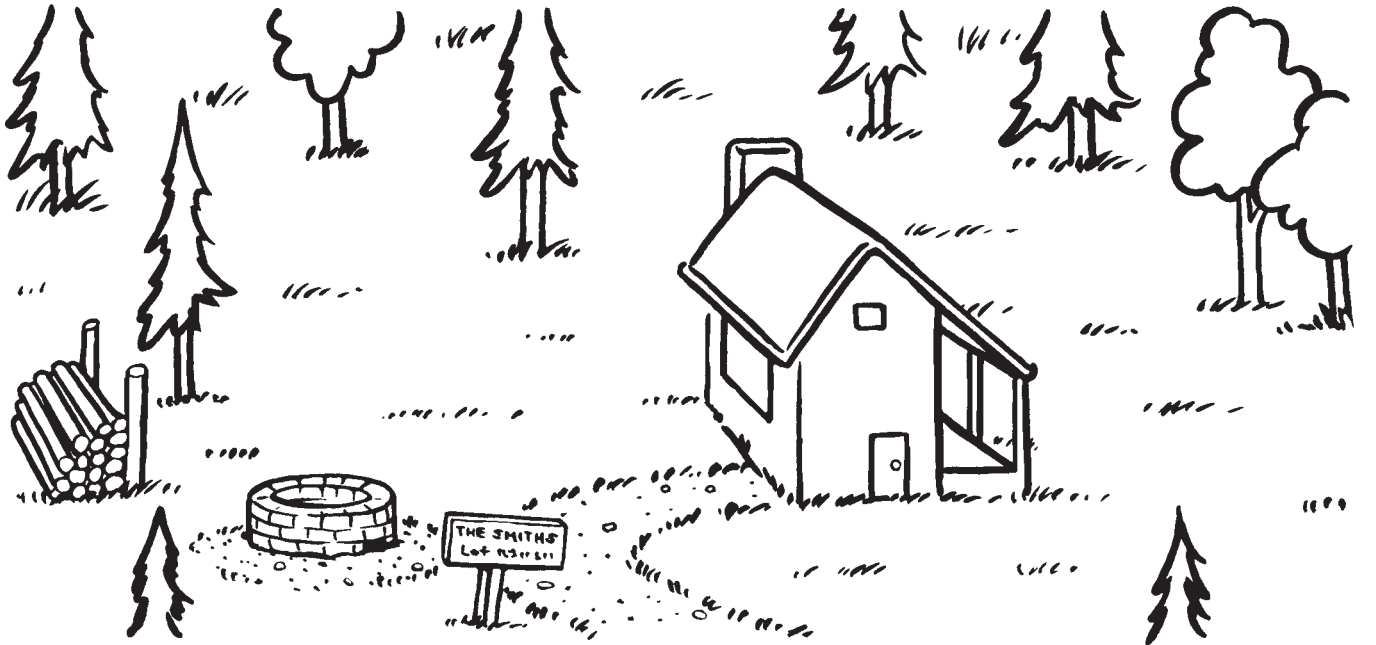
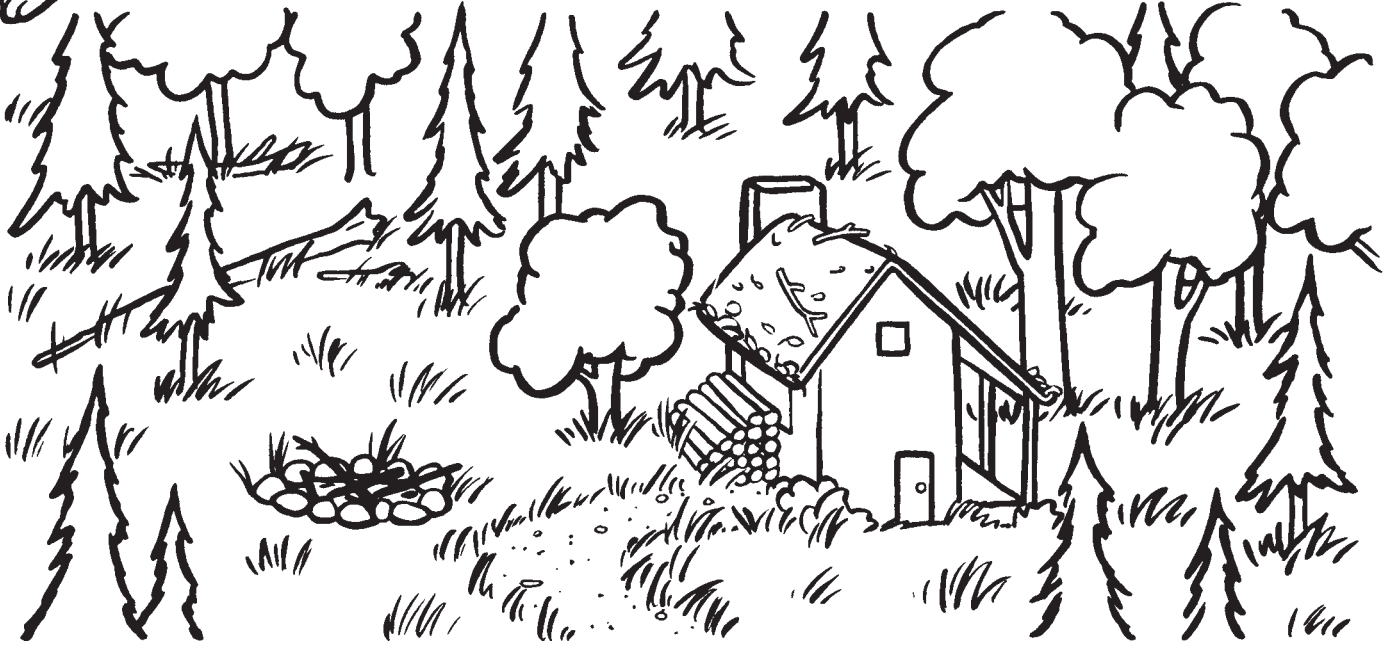
Fun Fact: To get to a wildfire, some firefighters are trained to slide down a rope from a helicopter.



Is your home
FireSmart?

FireSmart

When living near a forested area, it is important to protect your home from wildfire. Look at the two pictures below and see if you can find the differences between them. Which yard do you think is FireSmart?



FireSmart Tips:

Fill in the blanks to finish these FireSmart tips.

- Thin _____ around the house.
- Mow and water the _____.
- Keep the _____ clean of pine needles and leaves.
- Store _____ well away from the house.
- Use a grate over the _____ pit.

Did you know
wildfires burn more
rapidly up hill?



Campsite Safety

Keep the campfire small.

Build the campfire away from things that could catch on fire.

Keep a safe distance from the campfire.

Never leave the campfire unattended.

Have a bucket of water and a shovel nearby.

Can you find the safety tips in the picture?



Put food away after use.

Remember,
to report a wildfire, call
310-FIRE.

UNSAFE CAMPFIRE ACTIONS

- Playing near the campfire.
- Adding loose paper to the campfire.
- Leaving the campfire unattended.
- Building the campfire on a hill.



MORE SAFETY TIPS

- Have a grown-up watch the campfire.
- Be sure the campfire is out before leaving.
- Have a grown-up build the campfire on level ground.
- Only a grown-up should put out the campfire.

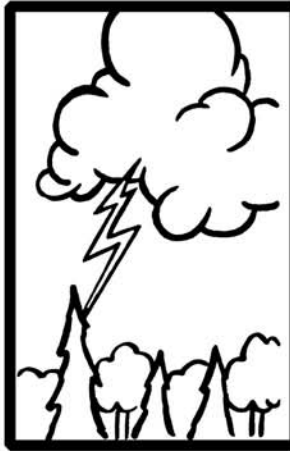
Parents: Putting out your campfire? Here's how:

- 1) Soak the campfire with water.
- 2) Stir up the ashes.
- 3) Soak it again.



Wildfire in the Forest

Wildfires cause many changes in a forest. Look at the scenes below to see how the forest changes over time.



Did you know lodgepole pine cones need heat to open the cones and release the seeds?

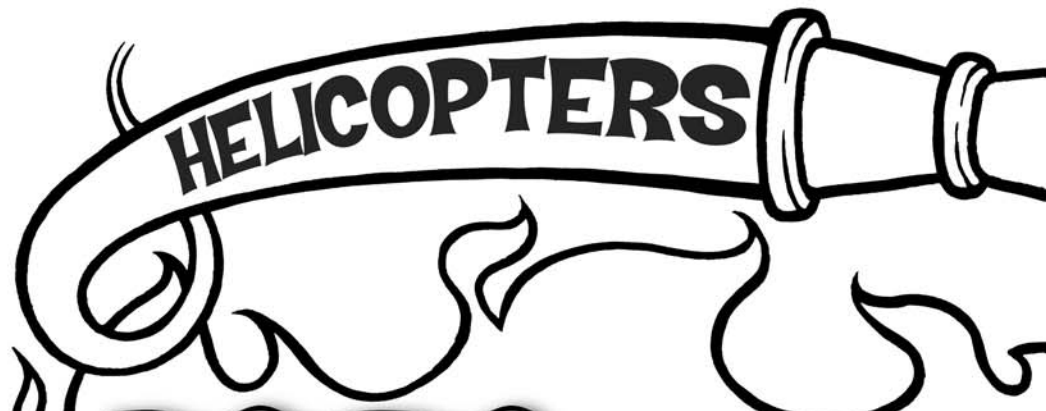


Hey kids, do you think these changes in the forest could happen again?



How to Play:

- 1) Select a game piece for each player (found on the last page of the book).
- 2) Decide who will go first.
- 3) Each player rolls a six-sided die to find out how many spaces to move.
- 4) If you land on a square at the bottom of a ladder, go up. If you land on a square at the top of a hose, go down.
- 5) The first player to land on square 27 is the winner!



27



CONGRATULATIONS!

26

18

19

Playing with matches.

20

An out of control campfire causes the grass to catch on fire.

17

Firewood is stored well away from the house.

16

15

6

7

A lightning strike starts a wildfire.

8

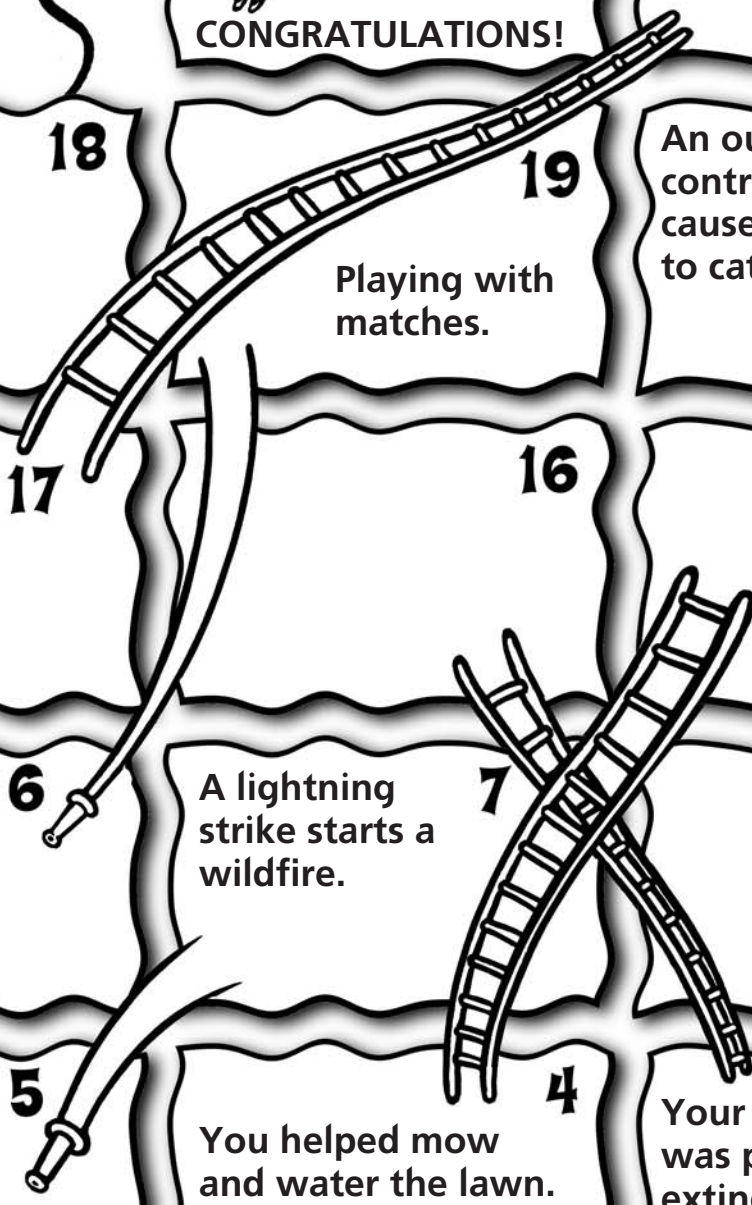
5

4

You helped mow and water the lawn.

3

Your campfire was properly extinguished.



& HOSES

Your campfire was left unattended.

25

24



21

You called 310-FIRE to report a wildfire.

22

Playing near the campfire.

23

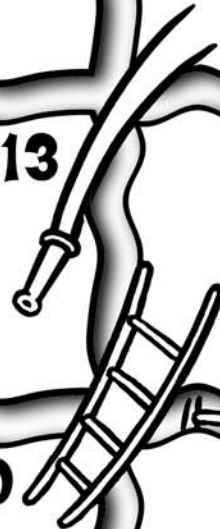


14

Heavy rains make the ground wet and difficult for wildfires to start.

13

12



9

You found matches and gave them to an adult.

10

11

2

1

START





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

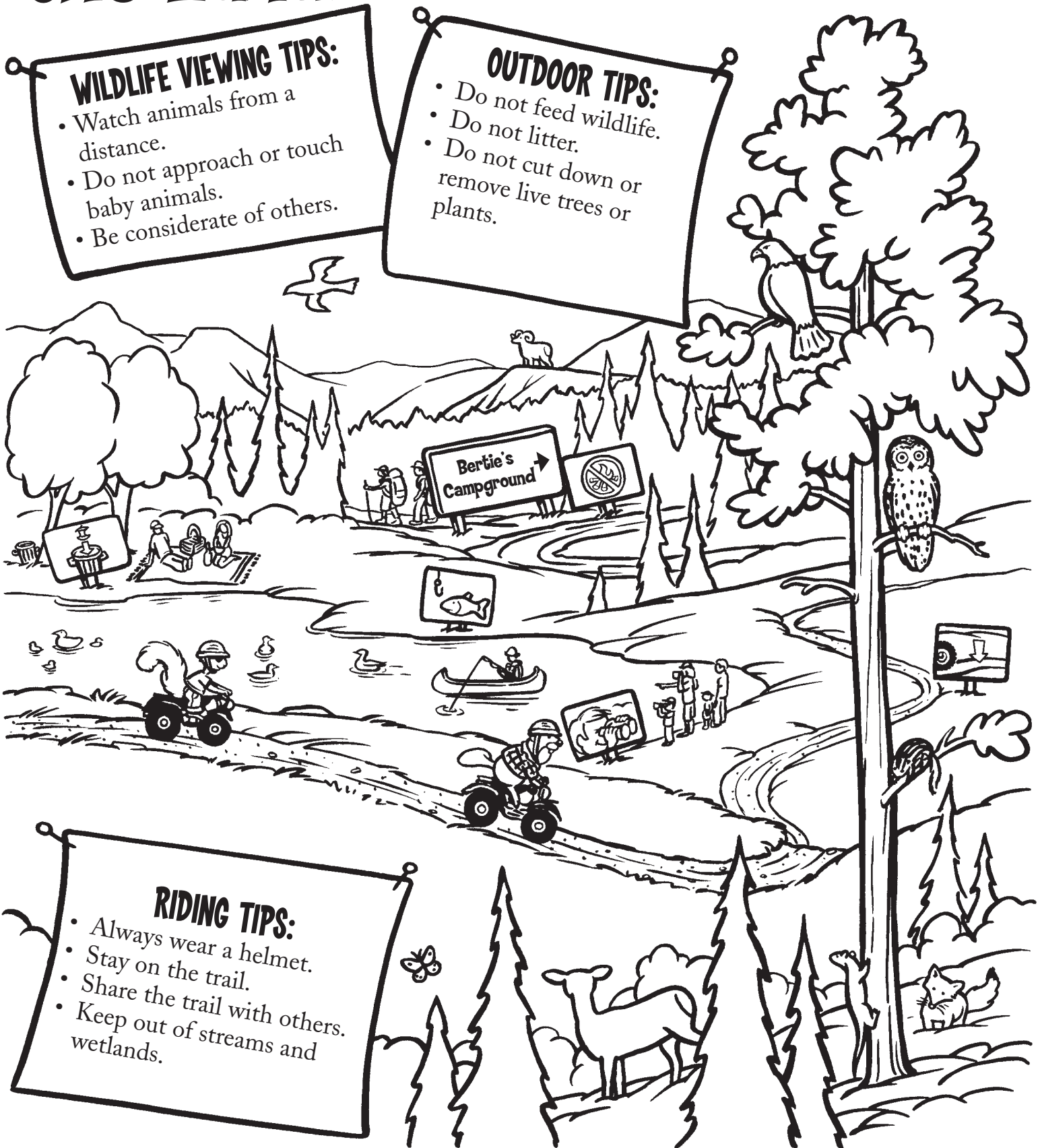
AIRTANKER
 FOREST
 HAZARD
 LIGHTNING
 SHOVEL
 SMOKE

CAMPFIRE
 FLAME
 HELICOPTER
 LOOKOUT
 FIREFIGHTER
 SAFETY

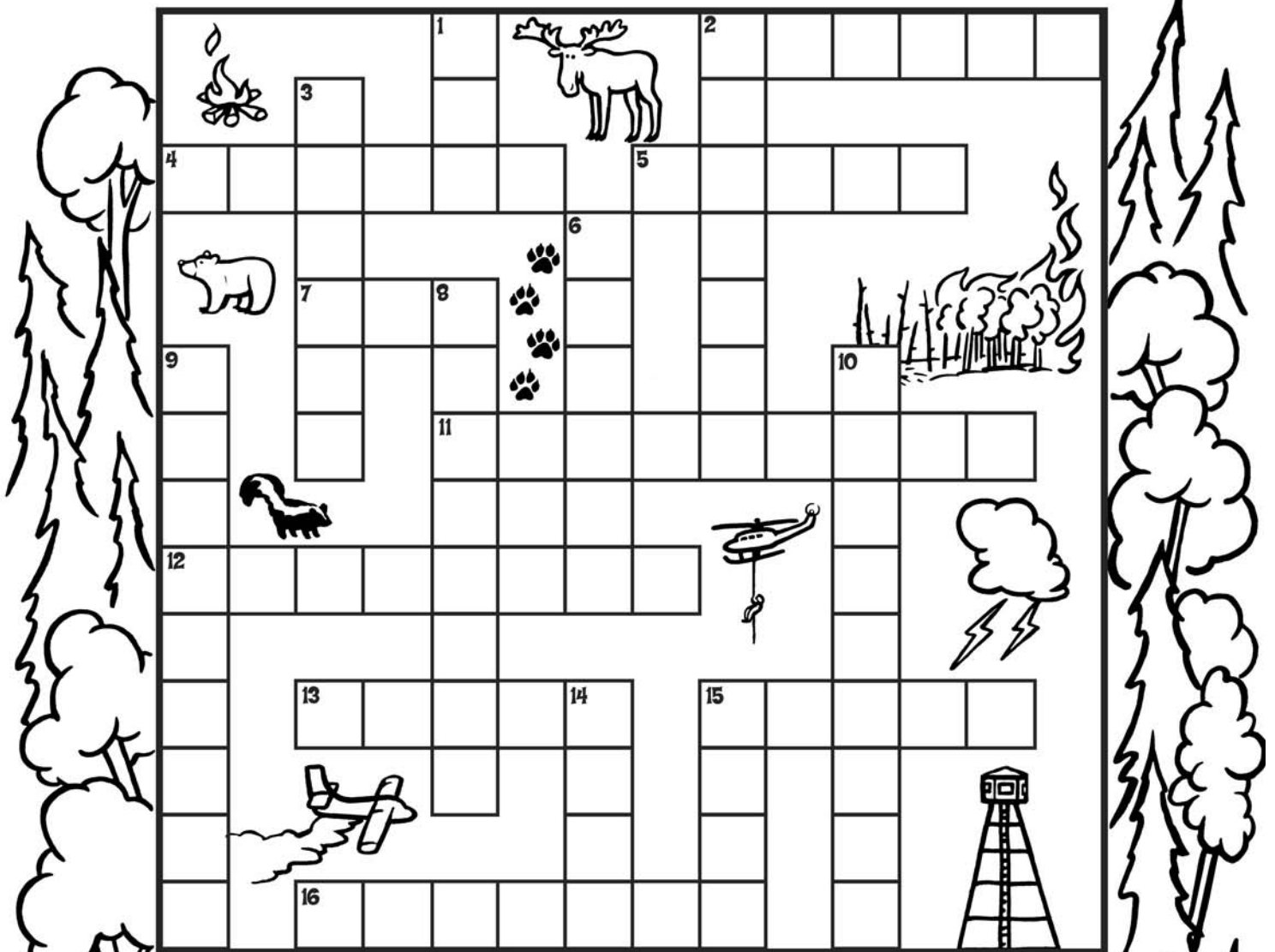
Respect the Land

When enjoying the outdoors, it is important to respect the environment. Follow Bertie and Scout as they travel through the forest.

How many important signs can you find?



Facts, Tracks & Habitats



Across

- 2) Forests provide _____ to build homes.
- 4) The mountain pine _____ is a forest pest that attacks lodgepole and limber pine trees.
- 5) This animal is the largest member of the deer family.
- 7) To protect your home from wildfire, _____ and water your lawn.
- 11) _____ is the number one cause of wildfires in Alberta.
- 12) Never leave a _____ unattended.
- 13) The tamarack _____ loses its needles every fall.
- 15) Red squirrels like to eat spruce and pine _____.
- 16) The place an animal lives is called its _____.

Down

- 1) The great horned _____ is Alberta's provincial bird.
- 2) _____ towers and cabins are used to locate smoke and wildfire in the forest.
- 3) When riding on an off highway vehicle, wear a _____ for safety.
- 6) You cannot see this animal's claws in its tracks.
- 8) To report a _____, call 310-FIRE.
- 9) This animal hibernates during the winter and eats berries, plants, insects and ground squirrels.
- 10) An _____ is a large airplane that carries and drops water or foam on a wildfire.
- 14) Lodgepole pine cones need _____ to open the cones and release the seeds.
- 15) The snowshoe hare blends in with its surroundings by changing the colour of its _____.

Answer Page

A Bird's Eye View:

- Bertie Beaver (American Beaver)
- Scout Squirrel (Red Squirrel)
- American Black Bear (with 2 cubs)
- Grey Wolf
- Moose
- Striped Skunk
- Snowshoe Hare
- Cougar (Mountain Lion)
- Great Horned Owl
- Grey Jay
- Common Loon
- Red-winged Blackbird
- Northern Flicker
- Great Blue Heron
- Black-capped Chickadee
- Dragonfly
- Tiger Swallowtail (Butterfly)
- Wood Frog
- Bull Trout
- Garter Snake

What's for Dinner?

- Trees > American Beaver > Cougar
- Grasses/shrubs > Snowshoe Hare > Canada Lynx
- Grasses/seeds > Insects (Grasshopper, Beetle) > Mouse > Great Horned Owl

American Badger

GROUND SQUIRRELS

Black Bear

BERRIES

Red Squirrel

PINE CONES

Peregrine Falcon

DUCKS

Fisher

PORCUPINES

A Forest Home

- Tree Cavity > Downy Woodpecker
- Forest Floor > Earthworm

- Meadow > White-tailed Deer
- Mountain Valley (Montane) > Black Bear
- Wetlands > American Beaver
- Burrow > Snowshoe Hare

Wildlife Detective

- 1) Porcupine
- 2) Cougar
- 3) Grey Wolf
- 4) Snowshoe Hare
- 5) Moose
- 6) American Beaver
- 7) Red Squirrel
- 8) Ruffed Grouse
- 9) Mule Deer

Cool Critters

- 1) Red Squirrel
- 2) Striped Skunk
- 3) Great Horned Owl
- 4) Black Bear

Alberta's Forests

- 3) White Spruce
- 5) Balsam Fir
- 6) White Birch
- 7) Aspen Poplar
- 2) Black Spruce
- 1) Lodgepole Pine
- 4) Tamarack Larch

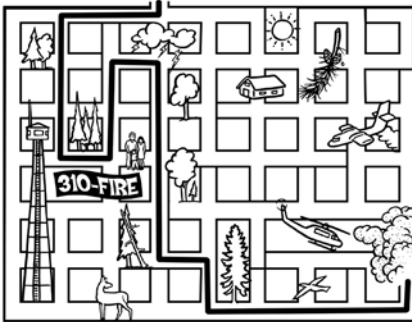
Forests Have Many Uses

- Produce oxygen
- Provide food for wildlife
- Provide habitat for wildlife
- Protect wetlands
- Jobs
- Lumber for homes
- Paper for books
- Recreation:
 - Hiking
 - Bird watching
 - Hunting
 - Camping
 - Fishing

Wildfires

- 1) Lightning
- 2) Power Line
- 3) Burn Barrel
- 4) Campfire
- 5) Spark

Detecting Wildfires



Fighting Wildfires

There are four ways to fight wildfires on the page.

FireSmart

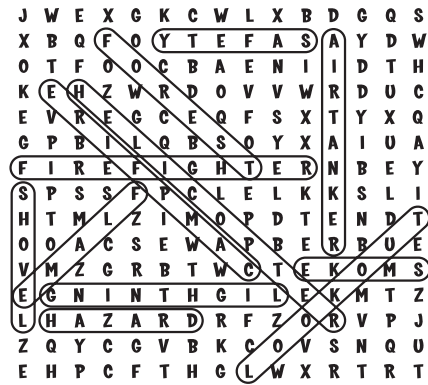
- The second yard is the FireSmart yard.
- FireSmart Tips:
 - Thin trees around the house.
 - Mow and water the lawn.
 - Keep the roof clean of pine needles and leaves.
 - Store firewood well away from the house.
 - Use a grate over the campfire pit.

Wildfire in the Forest

- Wildfires are a natural occurrence in the forest. A forest can burn time and time again allowing for new plant growth and habitat for wildlife.
- Wildfires can threaten communities in forested areas, so they need to be extinguished to prevent the loss of homes and forest resources.

Wildfire Word Search

Word Search with words circled



Respect the Land

There are five signs.

- 1) Do not litter
- 2) Fishing area- catch and release
- 3) Bird-watching area
- 4) Stay on trails
- 5) No campfires allowed - campfire ban in effect

Facts, Tracks & Habitats

Across

- 2) Lumber
- 4) Beetle
- 5) Moose
- 7) Mow
- 11) Lightning
- 12) Campfire
- 13) Larch
- 15) Cones
- 16) Habitat

Down

- 1) Owl
- 2) Lookout
- 3) Helmet
- 6) Cougar
- 8) Wildfire
- 9) Black Bear
- 10) Air Tanker
- 14) Heat
- 15) Coat



Bertie Beaver certifies that

**is a member of the
Bertie Beaver Kit Club.**

Alberta
SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE
DEVELOPMENT



**Game Pieces for
Helicopters & Hoses**



Contact Information

- Alberta Sustainable Resource Development
www3.gov.ab.ca/srd
- Alberta Fire Ban Information
www.albertafirebans.ca
- Forestry Youth Programs
 - Junior Forest Wardens
www.albertajfw.ca
 - Junior Forest Rangers
Aboriginal Junior Forest Rangers
www.albertajfr.ca
- Sustainable Resource Development Information Centre
9920 - 108 Street Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2M4
Phone: (780) 422-2079 Fax: (780) 427-4407

(Outside Edmonton, dial 310-0000 toll free and ask to be connected to the number listed above).
- Report-A-Poacher
1-800-642-3800 or #3800 on the TELUS Mobility cellular network.
- Crime Stoppers
1-800-222-TIPS (1-800-222-8477)
- To Report a Wildfire, call 310-FIRE

A cartoon illustration featuring two beavers in a forest. In the foreground, a brown beaver with a white chest patch is running towards the left. He is wearing a yellow and red plaid shirt and a yellow hat. A speech bubble next to him contains text. In the background, another brown beaver is climbing a tree trunk. He is wearing a green t-shirt and blue pants. A large yellow sign is attached to the tree, with text on it. The scene is set in a green field under a blue sky with clouds and a few trees in the distance.

To report a wildfire, call
310-FIRE

Remember, this number
is only to be used to
report wildfires.