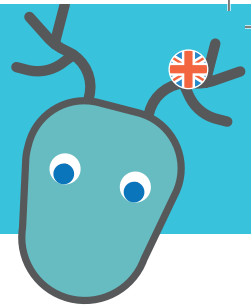


DO YOU HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO BE A PROFESSIONAL REINDEER HERDER IN LAPLAND?

FIND OUT!



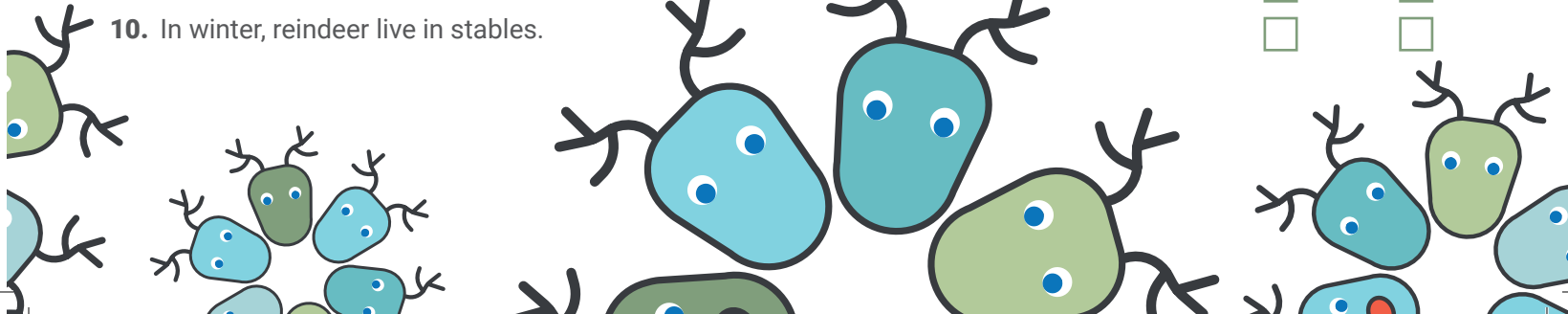
You get one point for each correct answer.

On the back of the card, you can find the correct answers.

1. Reindeer look matted in the summer because they don't get enough to eat.
2. The reindeer eat hundreds of different plants.
3. Reindeer love hot, sunny and dry summer weather.
4. Reindeer antlers may bleed due to skin disease.
5. Reindeer love petting.
6. Only male reindeer pull sleds.
7. It takes 4–5 years to train a reindeer to pull a sled.
8. In summer, reindeer are on holiday.
9. Reindeer love to eat lichen.
10. In winter, reindeer live in stables.

TRUE

FALSE





THE CORRECT ANSWERS

- 1. False.** During summer, the thick winter fur changes to summer fur. It comes off in big chunks and reveals the nice, smooth summer fur below. When the fur changes, reindeer look matted, but it is perfectly normal. The thicker winter fur starts to grow again in August.
- 2. True.** Reindeer eat more than 350 different plants, and around 100 of them are the most important ones.
- 3. False.** For a reindeer, a cold and rainy summer is better as there aren't so many blood-sucking insects. Then the reindeer can relax and have more time for eating.
- 4. False.** During early summer, the antlers start to grow and are covered in velvety skin. At that time, they can grow up to as much as 1–2 cm per day. Later in the autumn, the reindeer rub their antlers against something hard such as trees to get the skin off. So seeing blood on antlers is quite normal.
- 5. False.** Reindeer are very sensitive animals and they do not like people touching them. They are not as social as horses or dogs, for example. The reindeer is a semi-tame animal, domesticated from the mountain reindeer. It still is a prey animal that has to be watchful all the time.
- 6. True.** Only male reindeer or bulls pull the sleds. They are bigger and stronger than female reindeer. Also, female reindeer are usually pregnant in winter and they would lose the calf if they had to pull a sled.
- 7. True.** It takes time and a lot of patience to train a reindeer. After 4–5 years of laborious training, a reindeer is ready to pull a sled.
- 8. True.** Reindeer cannot sweat so they have to pant, just like dogs. They may get too hot if they have to pull or do other work in the summer.
- 9. True.** Lichen is one of the favourite foods of the reindeer, especially in winter.
- 10. False.** Reindeer do not need shelter in winter as they are used to a harsh climate. In the autumn, they grow a layer of fat under the skin, the fur is very thick and hairs are hollow, providing very good insulation in winter. Reindeer can manage in relatively low temperatures if they have enough proper food.

I SCORED...

9–10 points

Excellent! You could be the Chair of the Reindeer Herder's Association.

6–8 points

Good. You could work on a reindeer farm and someday become Chair of the Reindeer Herder's Association.

3–5 points

Fair. You probably know something about Santa's reindeer, but you need to learn more about reindeer living on the ground.

0–2 points

Not so good. But don't worry – Lapland is the best place to learn more about reindeer.