







Match these fun, unusual facts about Utah wildlife to the correct species! Once you figure out which creature it is, write the letter in the blank next to the fact. Good luck and happy matching!

#### WILDLIFE FACT

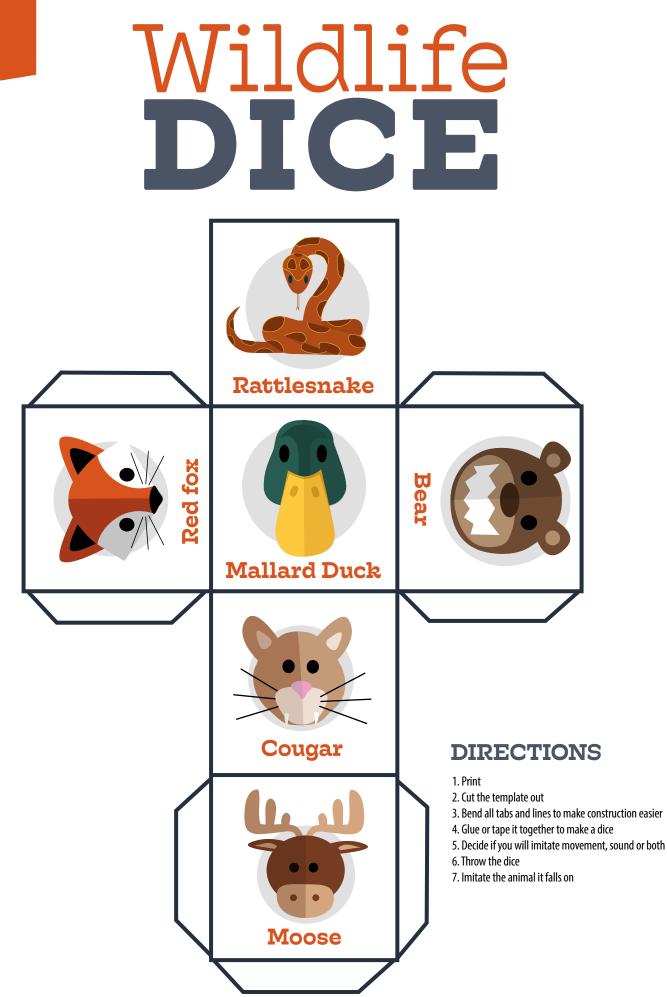
- 1.\_\_\_\_\_ My top running speed is about 20 miles per hour, and I eat rattlesnakes for breakfast. (Sometimes for lunch and dinner too!)
- **2.\_\_\_\_\_** I'm small but ferocious! I throw my head back and howl when defending my territory.
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_ As a large ambush predator, I can jump 15–18 feet vertically and leap up to 40 feet horizontally.
- 4. My reddish-orange front teeth are coated in hard, iron-rich enamel no toothpaste necessary!
- 5. \_\_\_\_\_ Roaming through the forest helps me work up an appetite. I can eat around 70 pounds of food per day.
- **6.**\_\_\_\_\_ When danger approaches, I raise the long, white hairs on my rump to warn the rest of the herd.
- 7. \_\_\_\_\_ My spectacular dorsal fin is brilliantly colored with shades of pink, green and purple.
- **8.**\_\_\_\_\_ I'm naturally camouflaged to blend in with my surroundings. I have brown fur in the summer and white fur in the winter.
- 9. When diving for prey, I can reach speeds of around 240 miles per hour. (Hint: I'm the fastest animal on Earth!)
- **10.** My glands produce a substance called castoreum. It smells like vanilla and has been approved as a natural flavoring for human food.
- 11.\_\_\_\_\_ I sometimes have trouble swallowing. That's when I retract my eyeballs deep into my head to help push food down my throat!
- **12.**\_\_\_\_\_ To confuse and scare off predators, I can shoot blood from my eyes.
- 13.\_\_\_\_\_ In the fall, my head changes shape, and my body turns bright red.
- **14.**\_\_\_\_\_ My 10-foot wingspan is about the length of a small car.
- **15.** My nose is seven times better than a bloodhound's I can smell food from more than 15 miles away. (So keep your campsite clean!)

#### SPECIES

- A. Black bear
- B. Pronghorn
- **C.** Beaver
- D. Moose
- E. Porcupine
- **F.** Grasshopper mouse
- **G.** Peregrine falcon
- H. Northern leopard frog
- I. Arctic grayling
- J. Kokanee salmon
- **K.** Snowshoe hare
- L. California condor
- M. Mountain lion
- N. Greater short-horned lizard
- 0. Roadrunner









# Let's draw à



#### STEP 1.

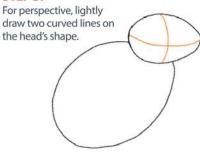
Starting with simple shapes, lightly draw an oval in the shape of an egg for the head.



#### STEP 2.

We'll be erasing these basic shapes later so keep drawing lighty. Draw a larger oval for the Pika's body.

#### STEP 3.



### STEP 4. Lightly draw the lines for the ears and legs.

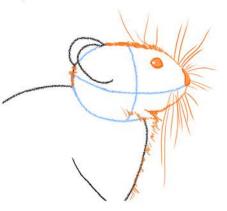
#### STEP 5.

We won't be erasing anything from now on. Draw the shapes with outlines for the eye and nose.



#### STEP 6.

Draw the whiskers and start forming the shape of the pika's head. Erase where the lines are blue.



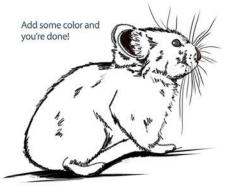
#### STEP 7.

Using small strokes, sketch out the shape of the body and legs. Erase the blue line.



#### STEP 8.







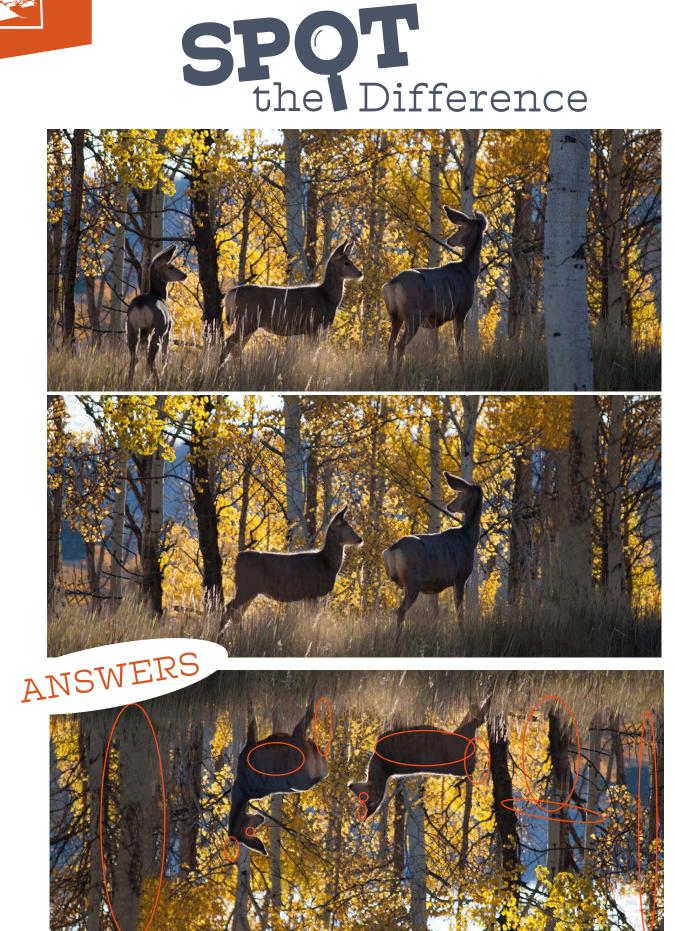
# Wordsearch

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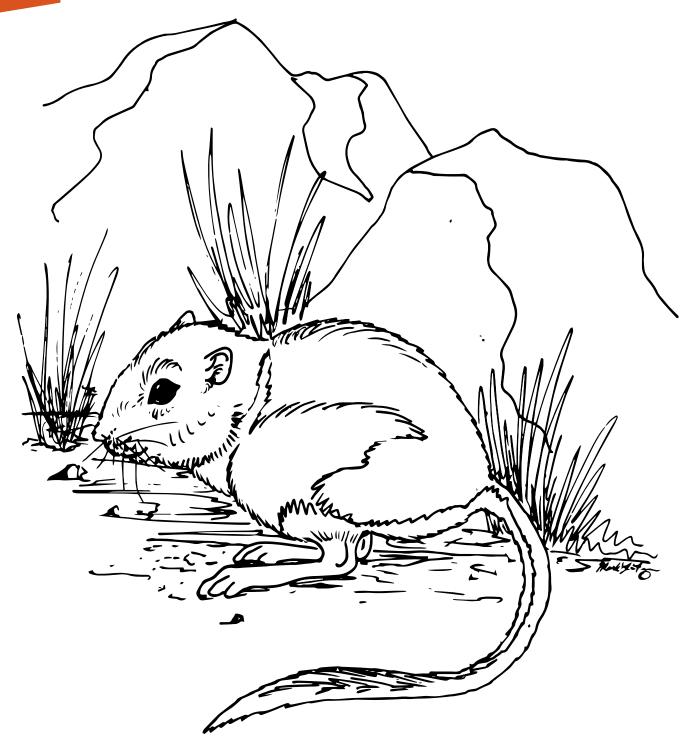
Elk Mule deer Kokanee salmon Cutthroat trout Turkey Bobcat Black bear Sagegrouse Frog Cougar

- Bald eagle Bison Kit fox Badger Tiger muskie
- Crayfish Gila monster Rattlesnake Wildlife









# Merriams Kangaroo Rat

#### (Dipodomys merriami)

The kangaroo rat is brown with a white under belly and tail. They have an extensive range in other southwestern states but are restricted to Washington County in Utah. Preferred habitats include sagebrush, shadscale, creosote brush, and other desert shrub communities. These animals get most of their water from their food.



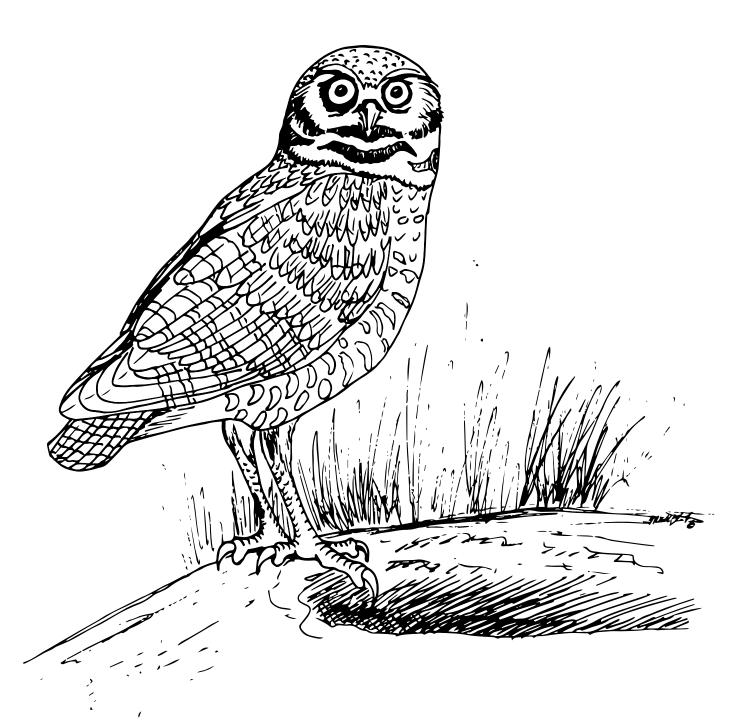


## **Short-horned Lizard**

#### (Phrynosoma douglassi)

There are two species of short-horned lizards in Utah: the Mountain and Salt Lake. These lizards, commonly called "horned toads," are really members of the reptile family. They are easily recognized by short pointed horns found on the back of the head. Their broad and flat, gray-to-brown bodies are colored and patterned to resemble the soil on which they live. Short-horned lizards can be found in sandy or rocky plains and forested areas throughout Utah. They are mostly active during midday, and at night burrow into the soil. All repties are protected wildlife in Utah.





# **Burrowing owl**

#### (Athene cunicularia)

This small, long-legged, brown and white owl can be found nesting in close association with prairie dogs. It inhibits deserted burrows and can be seen bobbing up and down as it sits perched on prairie dog mounds. Young owls in a burrow have the ability to mimic a rattlesnake when frightened. Because of habitat disturbances the burrowing owl is on the "Utah Birds of Special Concern List."



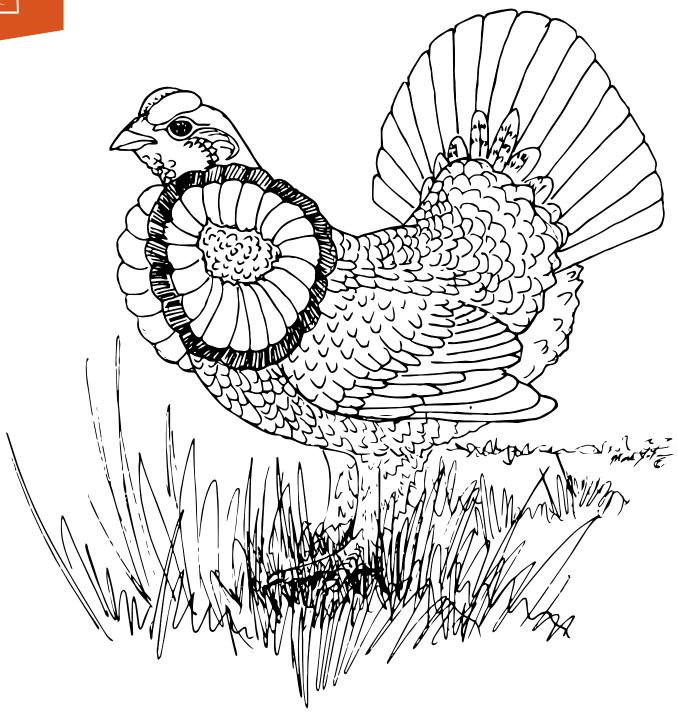


# **Mountain Bluebird**

#### (Sialia currucoides)

Mountain bluebirds live in open coniferous and deciduous forests, subalpine meadows and open country across Utah. This bird with its brilliant blue feathers was once numberous in Utah. Their numbers are declining because of increased competition by introduced species for limited nest sites and loss of habitat.





# **Blue Grouse**

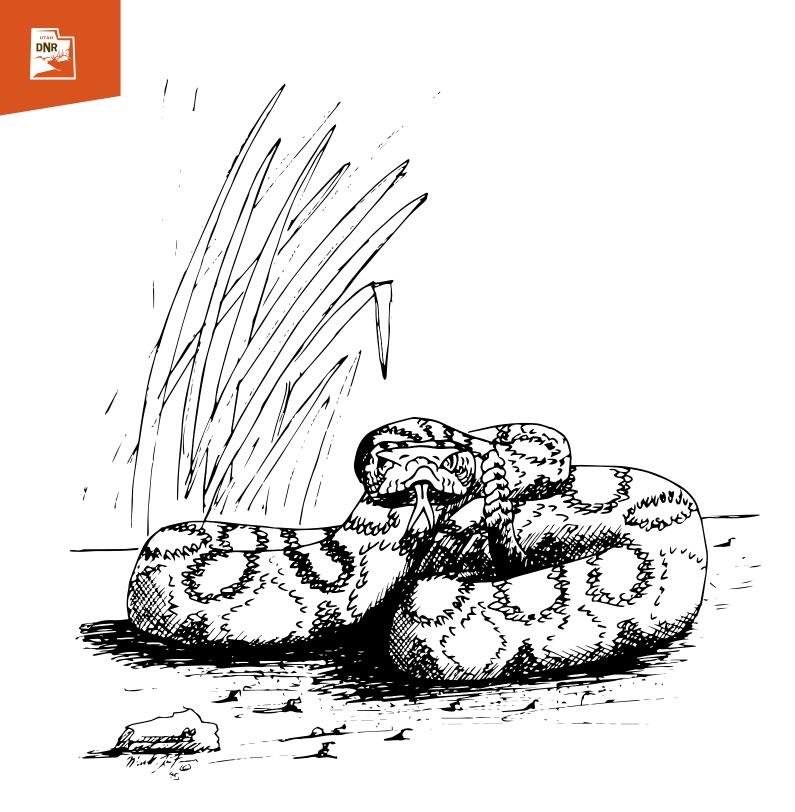
#### (Dendragapus obscurus)

The blue grouse is a woodland mountain bird, found in the foothills of deciduous forests of the montane and in the alpine zones. During the spring the males establish a lek or dancing area to attract females. The grayish-blue grouse is also sometimes called a "fool grouse" because of its habit of "freezing" to avoid detection rather than fleeing. In the spring, the males inflate the large reddish air sac on their necks to create loud sounds and make drumming sounds with their wings to attract females.



#### (Martes americana)

This brown mammal is also a member of the weasel family. It is only found in areas where dense conifer stands of fir, spruce, and lodgepole pine grow. The marten is extremely sensitive to habitat disturbance. Any activities that remove dense conifer stands or the dead, downed, and woody debris in old undistrubed forests destroy marten habitat.



# Rattlesnake

#### (Crotalus viridis lutosus)

Great Basin Rattlesnakes can be found throughout Utah in brushy or rocky areas. It is easily recognized by its greenish-gray to greenish-brown body with a rattle on the end of the tail. Utah is home to several differentspecies of rattlesnakes. Rattlesnakes fee primarily upon small rodents and birds. Their venom is used to immobilize their prey before swallowing it whole. When alarmed, rattlesnakes use their rattle to make a warning sound. These snakes as well as all reptiles are a protected species in Utah.

