



Wildlife in Winter

An activity guide for kids and families



This guide features fun facts about wildlife in winter, coloring pages, word searches, and outdoor activity ideas for the winter season!





Wildlife in Winter



Educate and engage kids and families around wildlife this winter break.

This guide is for elementary school-aged kids and includes the following activities:

- **Coloring pages:**
 - American alligator
 - Grizzly bear
 - Moose
 - North American river otter
 - Northern Cardinal
 - Raccoon
 - Red fox
- **Word searches**
- **Outdoor activity ideas for the winter season**
- **Resources to read about wildlife in winter**

Suggestion: Find a photo of each animal online or in a book to assist with colors or patterns, or let creativity take the lead!



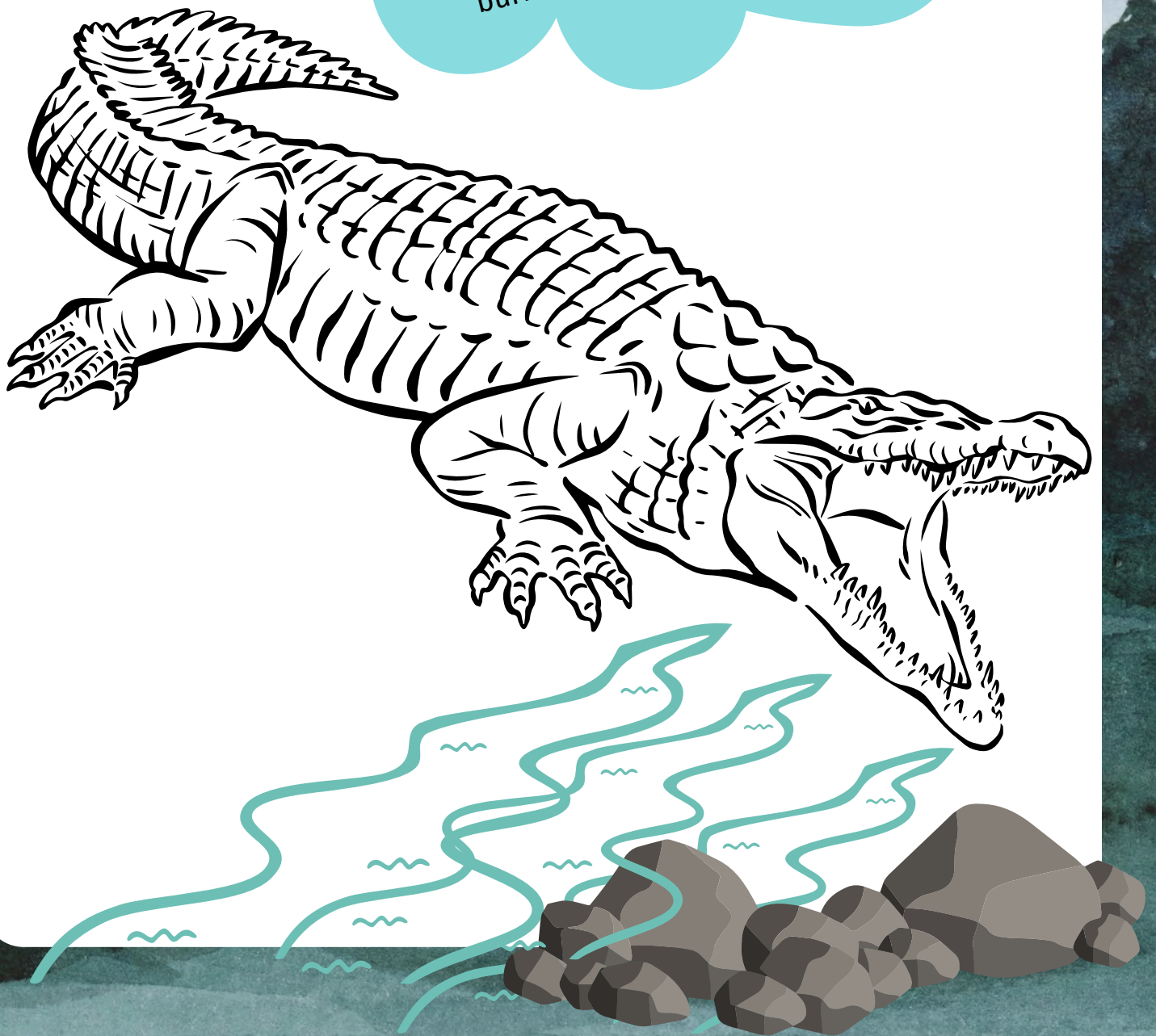


American Alligator

Alligator mississippiensis

Fun Fact:

American alligators are less active in the winter months. They enter brumation, where their activity slows down. But they may emerge from their burrows to bask on sunny, warm days.



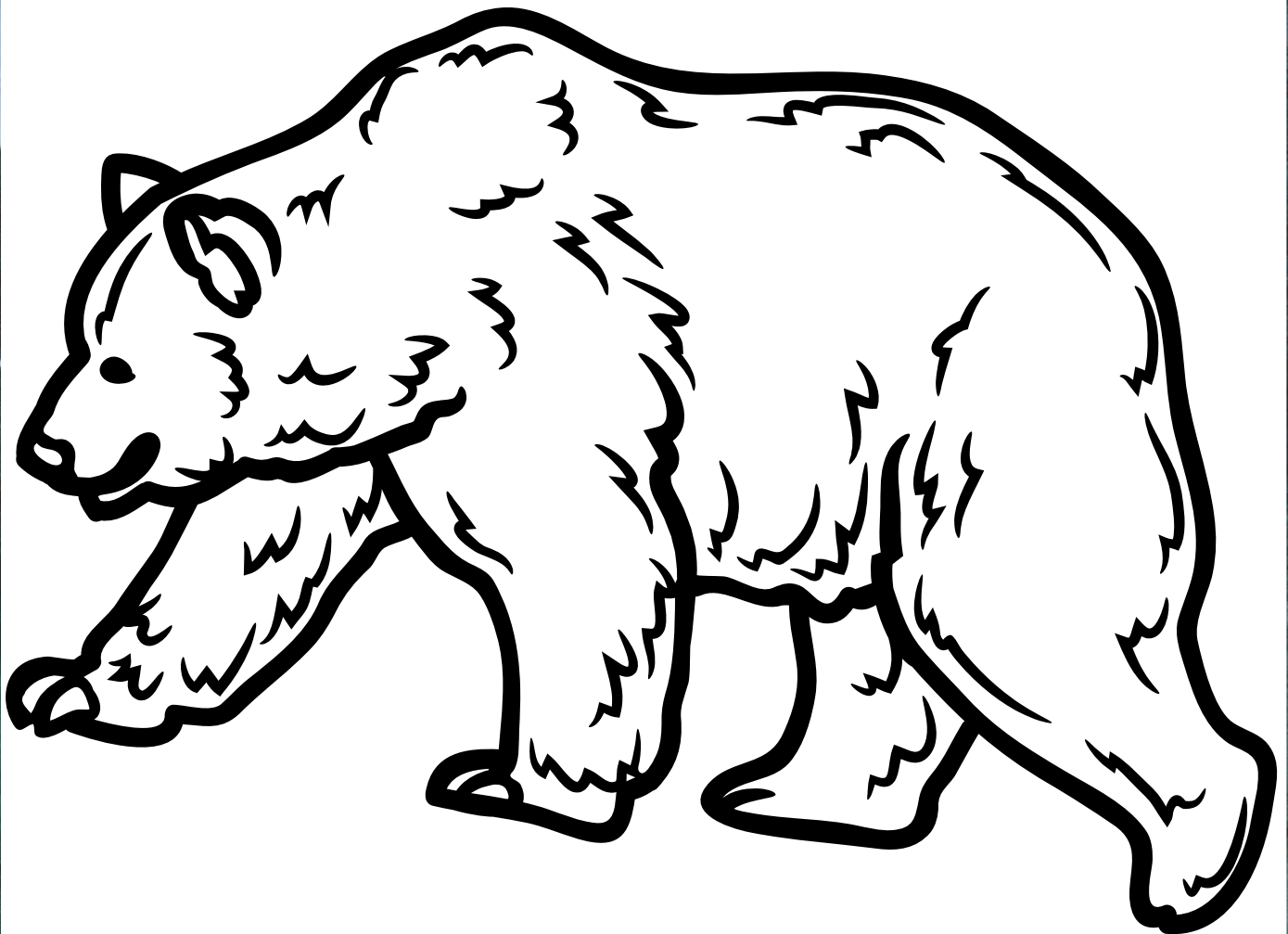


Grizzly Bear

Ursus arctos horribilis

Fun Fact:

During the winter season grizzly bears find a den and enter hibernation, a form of extended torpor. They can stay in their dens for up to seven months, but if there is food available, they may be active.

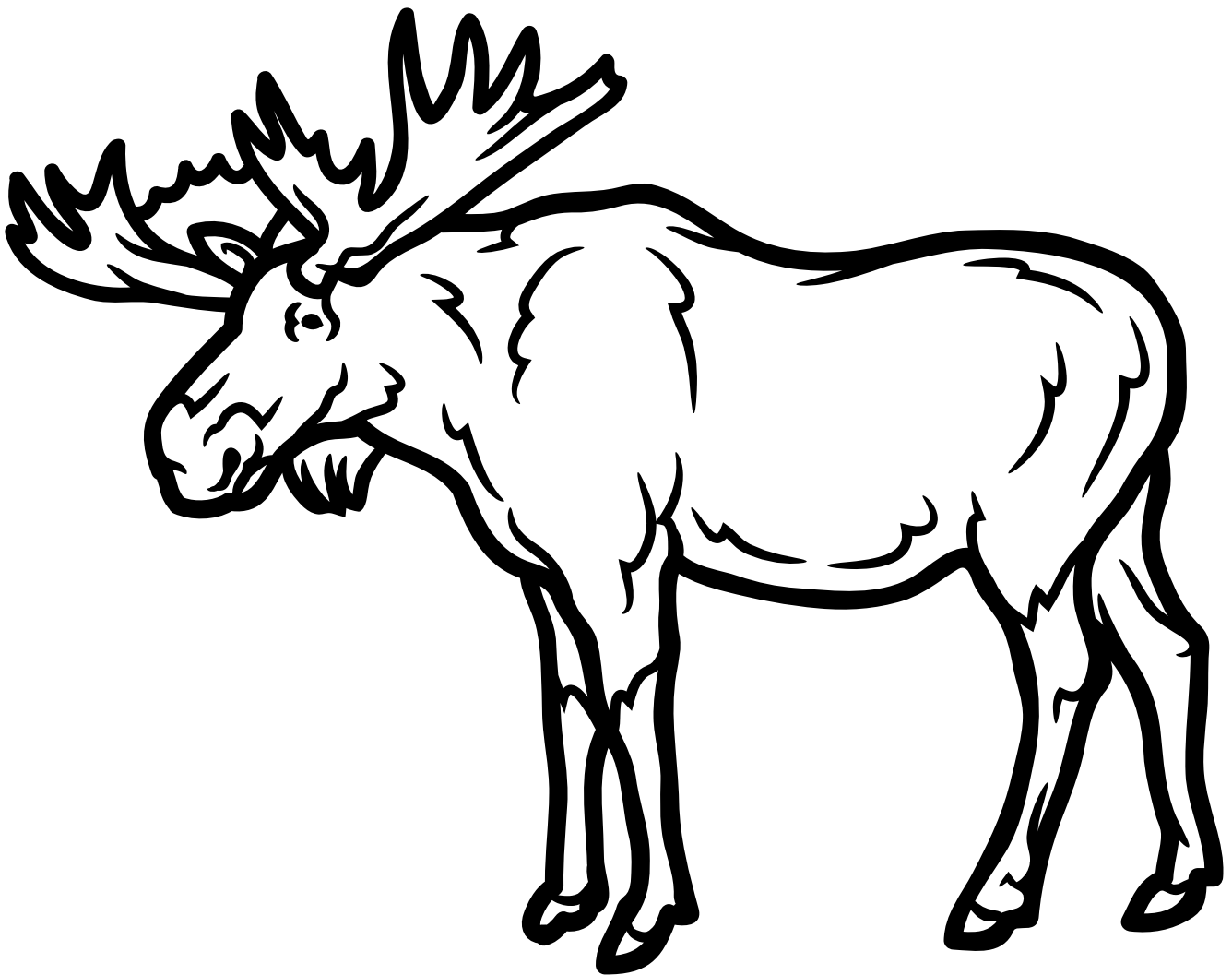


Moose

Alces americanus

Fun Fact:

Moose are the largest members of the deer family, standing six feet tall from hoof to shoulder. They stay active in the winter, and are able to move through deep snow, and withstand cold temperatures due to their thick undercoat.



Norther American River Otter

Lontra canadensis

Fun Fact:

North American river otters communicate with whistles, yelps, growls, and screams, as well as touch and body posture. They remain active in the winter, and stay warm in cold waters due to their thick, protective fur.



Northern Cardinal

Cardinalis cardinalis

Fun Fact:

Northern Cardinals get their red feathers from their food. Cardinals eat mostly grains and seeds, but they also eat insects and fruits like wild grapes, dogwood berries, and mulberries. Cardinals do not migrate, they stay local during the winter months.



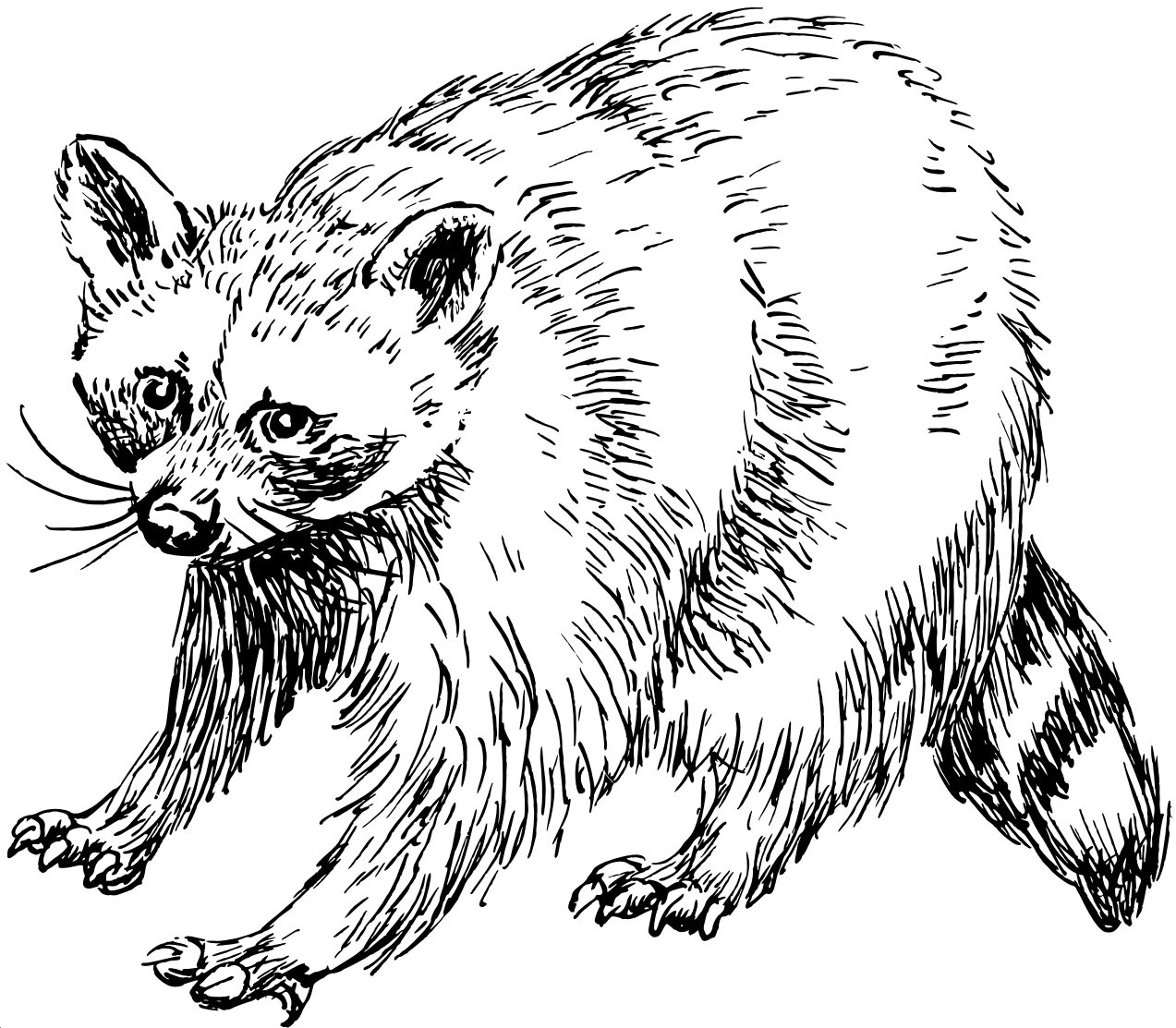


Raccoon

Procyon lotor

Fun Fact:

Female raccoons can have one litter of babies, or "kits" per year, usually in the spring. They stay with their mom for the first winter, then go off on their own in the spring. During the winter, raccoons stay in their dens, but will venture out for food and water.



Red Fox

Vulpes vulpes



Fun Fact:
Red foxes have excellent hearing.
They can hear low-frequency
sounds like rodents digging
underground, even underneath
the snow.



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WILDLIFE IN WINTER

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

ALLIGATOR

MOOSE

RIVER OTTER

CARDINAL

POLAR BEAR

RACCOON

RED FOX

WINTER

DECEMBER

JANUARY

FEBRUARY

SNOW

COLD

COOL





Evergreen Trees:

Green All Winter



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

Southern Magnolia

Arizona Cypress

Longleaf Pine

Eastern White Pine

Ponderosa Pine

Loblolly Pine

American Holly

Western Hemlock

Snow

Tree



Get Outdoors for a *Green Hour*®



Check out these outdoor activity ideas:

- Search for winter: Go on a scavenger hunt for signs of winter
- Make a snow animal: Build animals out of snow
- Spy on squirrels: Squirrels scamper and scurry, gather and bury, chase and chatter—all day long
- Look for animal tracks: Head outside and look for animal tracks

Visit the NWF Green Hour® website
for more ideas to get outdoors
during the winter break!



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Read More About Wildlife in Winter

Ranger Rick

Read more about wildlife in winter
in *Ranger Rick* magazine:

- *Winter Warriors: Muskoxen*
- *Winter Warriors: Find out how some tough creatures conquer the cold.*
- *Winter Weasel*



Sources for *Wildlife in Winter* Fun Facts

American alligator:

- [NWF online wildlife guide](#)
- [South Carolina Aquarium](#)

Grizzly bear:

- [NWF's online wildlife guide](#)
- [Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks](#)

Moose:

- [NWF online wildlife guide](#)
- [Hamilton College](#)

North American river otter: [NWF's online wildlife guide](#)

Northern Cardinal:

- Audubon: [10 fun facts about Northern Cardinal](#)
- All About Birds: [Northern Cardinal](#)

Raccoon: [NWF's online wildlife guide](#)

Red fox: [NWF's online wildlife guide](#)

Note: The coloring pages in this guide were designed in *Canva*. The animal illustrations are for coloring; they are not scientific illustrations.

