

"Who Am I?"

- ▶ I have orange teeth.
- ▶ I can close my nose and ears under the water.
- ▶ I have a tail that looks like a paddle.
- ▶ I like to build stick and mud dams across the stream.
- ▶ I live in a lodge.
- ▶ Close to one million of my pelts were sold by the Hudson Bay Trading Company between 1985 and 1877.
- ▶ Before the development of synthetic fibers, my thick underfur was used for making felt.
- ▶ I may weigh up to 60 pounds and measure 4 feet long.
- ▶ I am the largest rodent in North America.

"Who Am I?"

- ▶ I like to eat cattails, arrowheads, and duckweed.
- ▶ I use my feet as paddles and my tail as a rudder as I swim through the water.
- ▶ I live in bank dens or small lodges made from aquatic plants, brush and mud.
- ▶ I can swim forwards and backwards.
- ▶ My short undercoat, called musquash, is very valuable because of its durability.
- ▶ As an adult, I am 9 to 12 inches from head to hind, but my rudder-like tail adds 7 to 11 inches.
- ▶ My fur color can range from silvery brown to almost black.
- ▶ I have long, stiff whiskers on either side of my nose.

"Who Am I?"

- ▶ I am very dexterous.
- ▶ I am omnivorous and I am known to raid garage cans.
- ▶ I am nocturnal (active at night).
- ▶ I like to climb trees.
- ▶ I am trapped for my fur and fat which is a good lubricant for leather and machinery.
- ▶ My soft course underfur is covered with long course guard hairs.
- ▶ As an adult, I weigh from 13 to 25 pounds and measure 2 to 3 feet long.
- ▶ I am known for my "bandit's mask"; a broad black mask across my cheeks and eyes.

"Who Am I?"

- ▶ I am a carnivore and like to eat fish, frogs, ducks, crayfish, earthworms, mice and muskrats.
- ▶ I am nocturnal.
- ▶ I have small round ears, my legs are short and my body is long.
- ▶ I have to be careful of otters because they like to eat me.
- ▶ My fur is one of the most desired in the world because of its glossy appearance and density.
- ▶ Most of my type used for clothing are raised on commercial farms.
- ▶ Males weigh from 2 to 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds and measure between 23 and 27 inches. Females weigh from 2 to 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds and measure between 18 to 22 inches.
- ▶ There are usually white markings on my chin and throat.

"Who Am I?"

- ▶ I am the size of a large cat but am a member of the dog family.
- ▶ I am carnivorous.
- ▶ I have a red coat and bushy tail.
- ▶ I live in dens.
- ▶ My fur is very soft and pliable. It is used for coats and hats in many countries in the world.
- ▶ My tail is used as a balancing device when I stand on my hind legs to peer over the tall wetland grass in search of a mouse, gopher or field rat. I also eat nesting birds, ducks, pheasants, rabbits and squirrels, as well as a variety of different plants.
- ▶ In many fables, I am considered clever, cunning and almost always a villain.

"Who Am I?"

- ▶ My fur is used to make the best paint brushes for artists. In the past, my thick hair was used to make shaving brushes.
- ▶ Many of my kind have been exterminated because it was believed that I carried the TB bacterium.
- ▶ My family, the *Mustelidae*, shows a foot print with five toes! Also my body type is bear-like with a 3 foot body, short tail, and short but powerful legs armed with strong claws on my front feet.
- ▶ I will mate for life and will usually have about 3 cubs in my family. Plus, I am a very clean animal. In fact, I will scoop out a toilet above ground and away from my home to use!

"Who Am I?"

- ▶ I can blast enemies with a foul mist up to 10 ft away.
- ▶ I usually live in burrows that have been abandoned by other animals.
- ▶ I am nocturnal.
- ▶ I like to eat plants, small mammals and fish (omnivorous).
- ▶ My fur is very distinctive. When most people see me coming across the field or road, they run away!
- ▶ I eat vegetable foods, grubs, insects, mice, shrews, eggs and carrion.
- ▶ I am one of the most gentle and least aggressive creatures in the wetlands. My hearing is weak, my vision is poor, and my sense of taste and smell are mediocre.
- ▶ It is a myth that all of my species are born rabies carriers. The fact is that I am like all other mammals, in this respect - I have to be either bitten by or I have to eat the carrion of a rabid animal in order to contract rabies.

"Who Am I?"

- ▶ I am carnivorous and love eating fish, crustaceans, amphibians, snakes, birds, frogs, turtles and aquatic insects.
- ▶ I wash myself after every meal.
- ▶ I can dive to 60 feet.
- ▶ My babies are called pups.
- ▶ I can hold my breath for up to 8 minutes, swim up to seven miles per hour underwater, and I can run at speeds up to 29 kilometers per hour.
- ▶ I often live in abandoned dens of foxes, badgers or rabbits.
- ▶ With a streamlined body, webbed feet, and rudder-like tail,
- ▶ I am an energetic member of the weasel family. I love to make a game out of just about everything! I'll chase after a pebble, a shell, or one of my friends for houses, but my favorite activity is body-sledding down a slippery slope and landing with a belly-flop in the water!

Answer Key
To
"Who Am I?"

Card #1: Muskrat

Card #5: Raccoon

Card #2: Badger

Card #6: Skunk

Card #3: Beaver

Card #7: Mink

Card #4: Fox

Card #8: Otter