



Scavenger Hunt for Grades 6-8

All of the answers to this scavenger hunt can be found by reading signs or by observing the animals.

Reptiles

1. Does a python lay eggs or give live birth to its offspring?
2. What is the range of the Burmese Python?
3. Find the largest lizard in the world.
4. What do king cobras eat in the wild?
5. What does the king cobra's scientific name, *Ophiophagus hannah*, mean?
6. How do you know if a baby alligator is a boy or a girl?

Birds

7. What is the purpose of the barn owl's heart-shaped facial disc?
8. How many times better is the barn owl's night vision than a human's?
9. What does the male toucan offer the female toucan to strengthen their bond?
10. How many eggs do toucans usually lay?

11. These large flightless birds live in New Guinea. The kick of one of these animals can be very dangerous.

12. Find the ratite that live in the Savannah.

Mammals

13. Although often mistaken for them, these aquatic mammals are not seals.

14. Why is the wild gorilla population getting smaller?

15. What adaptations allow the orangutan to range over great distances?

16. What is the elephant's "heel"?

17. Why do maned wolves have such long legs?

18. What have tigers traditionally been hunted for?

19. Who does the hunting for the pride—the lion or the lioness?

20. How many vertebrae does a giraffe have in its neck?

Answer Key

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1. **Pythons lay eggs**, which the mother coils around to protect. She will only leave to drink water.
2. The python's range is **Asia**.
3. The largest lizard in the world is the **Komodo Dragon**.
4. The natural food of the king cobra in the wild is **snakes**.
5. The king cobra's scientific name means "**giant snake eater**".
6. The sex of a baby alligator is determined by the **temperature at which the egg incubates**.
7. The purpose of the barn owl's heart-shaped facial disk is to **direct sounds into the owl's ears**.
8. The barn owl's night vision is **one hundred** times better than a human's.
9. The male toucan offers **small pieces of fruit** to the female to strengthen their bond.
10. The toucan can lay **4** eggs.
11. The **cassowary** is the flightless bird that lives in New Guinea.
12. The ratite that lives on the Savannah is the **ostrich**.
13. The aquatic mammals often mistaken for seals are **sea lions**.
14. The wild gorilla population is getting smaller because **forests are becoming farmland**.
15. Orangutans have **long arms and strong fingers** that allow them to range over great distances.
16. The elephant's "heel" is really a **pad of fatty and elastic tissue**.
17. Maned wolves have such long legs to **help them see over the tall grasses**.
18. Tigers have been traditionally hunted for their **fur and other body parts**.
19. The **lioness** does the hunting for the pride.
20. A giraffe has **7** vertebrae in its neck.