

Young Naturalists Study Questions

"These Dogs Are Wild" by Mary Hoff. Published in the January–February 2021
Minnesota Conservation Volunteer, or visit
www.mndnr.gov/young_naturalists/wilddogs.

Name _____ Date _____

1. How many species of wild dogs are there in the world?
2. What are two senses that are especially well-developed in dogs?
3. Where are scent glands located in a dog?
 - a. Inside its long snout
 - b. Under its tail
 - c. In its poop
 - d. In its wet nose
4. Which wild canid is most similar to domestic dogs?
 - a. gray wolf
 - b. coyote
 - c. red fox
 - d. gray fox
5. How do gray wolves protect their territory?
 - a. By peeing and pooping
 - b. With guard hairs
 - c. By howling
 - d. By squeaking
 - e. a & c
 - f. a & b
6. True or false: Wolves can go months without eating.
7. Name three adaptations that help gray wolves thrive in Minnesota's cold and snowy winter.
8. What are three ways coyotes and wolves are different?
9. True or false: Coyotes have one distinct call.
10. Put the following steps in raising young from first to last:
The parents start feeding the pups solid food.
The mother gives birth to the pups.
The parents start to teach the pups to hunt.

11. Match the species to the trait:

Gray wolf	Can climb trees
Coyote	Come in a variety of colors
Red fox	Has the best sense of hearing of any wild dog
Gray fox	Minnesota's largest canid

12. Name three animals that eat canids.

CHALLENGE: Approximately what percent of the 36 Canidae species live in Minnesota?

Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments Practice Items

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1. Name four traits that help dogs be good predators.
2. What are three ways coyotes and wolves are similar?
3. Name Minnesota's four wild canids in order of adult size, from smallest to biggest.
4. Which Minnesota canids howl?
 - a. wolves
 - b. wolves and foxes
 - c. wolves and coyotes
 - d. all four species

Vocabulary

"These Dogs Are Wild" by Mary Hoff. Published in the January–February 2021 *Minnesota Conservation Volunteer*, or visit www.mndnr.gov/young_naturalists/wilddogs.

Aggression – behavior aimed at dominating or harming another
Companionship – friendship
Descended from – had as ancestors
Domestic – tame
Elaborate – complex
Omnivore – an animal that eats both plants and animals

When animals show **aggression**, they show
Behavior aimed at dominating or harming another is known as

Another word for **companionship** is
Another word for **friendship** is

When an animal **descends** from other animals, it
When an animal **has other animals as its ancestors**, it

Domestic animals are
Tame animals are

An **elaborate** object is one that is
A **complex** object is

Omnivores eat
Animals that eat **both plants and animals** are called

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