

**Badgers**  
and Other Mustelids





## ANIMALS OF THE WORLD

# Badgers and Other Mustelids

How does a badger defend itself? Why does a sea otter carry a rock? Why is the wolverine also called the glutton? Read *Badgers and Other Mustelids* to find out!

### What did you learn?

#### QUESTIONS

1. A mustelid is a type of ...
  - a. Mammal
  - b. Fish
  - c. Amphibian
  - d. Reptile
2. The sense that is strongest in a badger is its ...
  - a. Hearing
  - b. Sight
  - c. Smell
  - d. Touch
3. The best tree climbers of the mustelids are the ...
  - a. Wolverines
  - b. Skunks
  - c. Badgers
  - d. Pine martens
4. The strongest mustelids are the ...
  - a. Badgers
  - b. Skunks
  - c. Wolverines
  - d. Weasel
5. What animal is this?  

6. What animal is this?  


#### TRUE OR FALSE?

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. The honey badger can be found in Africa.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. All species of badgers live above the ground, in nests.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. By the time that Old World badgers are about 7 months old, they can take care of themselves.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Badgers are preyed on by bobcats, wolves, and foxes.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Wolverines have large, flat paws that help them walk on top of snow.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Weasels sometimes break into chicken coops and kill chickens.



## ANSWERS

- 1. a. Mammal.** According to section "What Is a Mustelid?" on page 6, we know that "A mustelid is a type of mammal." So, the correct answer is A.
- 2. c. Smell.** According to section "What Is Special About a Badger's Body?" on page 12, we know that "Their sense of smell is excellent compared to their other senses, but their eyesight is weak." So, the correct answer is C.
- 3. d. Pine martens.** According to section "Which of These Animals Can Climb Trees?" on page 40, we know that "But the best tree climbers in this group of animals are the pine martens." So, the correct answer is D.
- 4. c. Smell.** According to section "Which Weasel Relative Is the Strongest?" on page 48, we know that "It is no exaggeration, however, that the wolverine is the strongest animal of its size." So, the correct answer is C.
- 5.** According to page 37, this photo shows a sea otter.
- 6.** According to page 41, this photo shows a pine marten.

## TRUE OR FALSE? ANSWERS

- 1. True.** According to section "Where in the World Do Badgers and Other Mustelids Live?" on page 8, we know that "And, although not a true badger, a similar mustelid that is known as the ratel, or honey badger, can be found in Africa." So, the correct answer is True.
- 2. False.** According to section "In What Kind of Home Does a Badger Live?" on page 18, we know that "All species of badgers live underground, in burrows." So, the correct answer is False.
- 3. False.** According to section "How Do Baby Badgers Grow?" on page 26, we know that "By the time Old World badgers are about 4 months old, they can take care of themselves." So, the correct answer is False.
- 4. True.** According to section "What Are the Enemies of These Animals?" on page 34, we know that "But some kinds of animals happily eat mustelids for dinner. So mustelids have to be on the lookout for bobcats, bears, wolves, foxes, cougars, and birds of prey, such as hawks and eagles." So, the correct answer is True.
- 5. True.** According to section "How Do These Animals Spend the Winter?" on page 42, we know that "Wolverines have large, flat paws that help them walk on top of snow." So, the correct answer is True.
- 6. True.** According to section "Why Do Some People Dislike Mustelids?" on page 58, we know that "For example, weasels break into chicken coops and kill chickens. Weasels sometimes kill more chickens than they can eat." So, the correct answer is True.