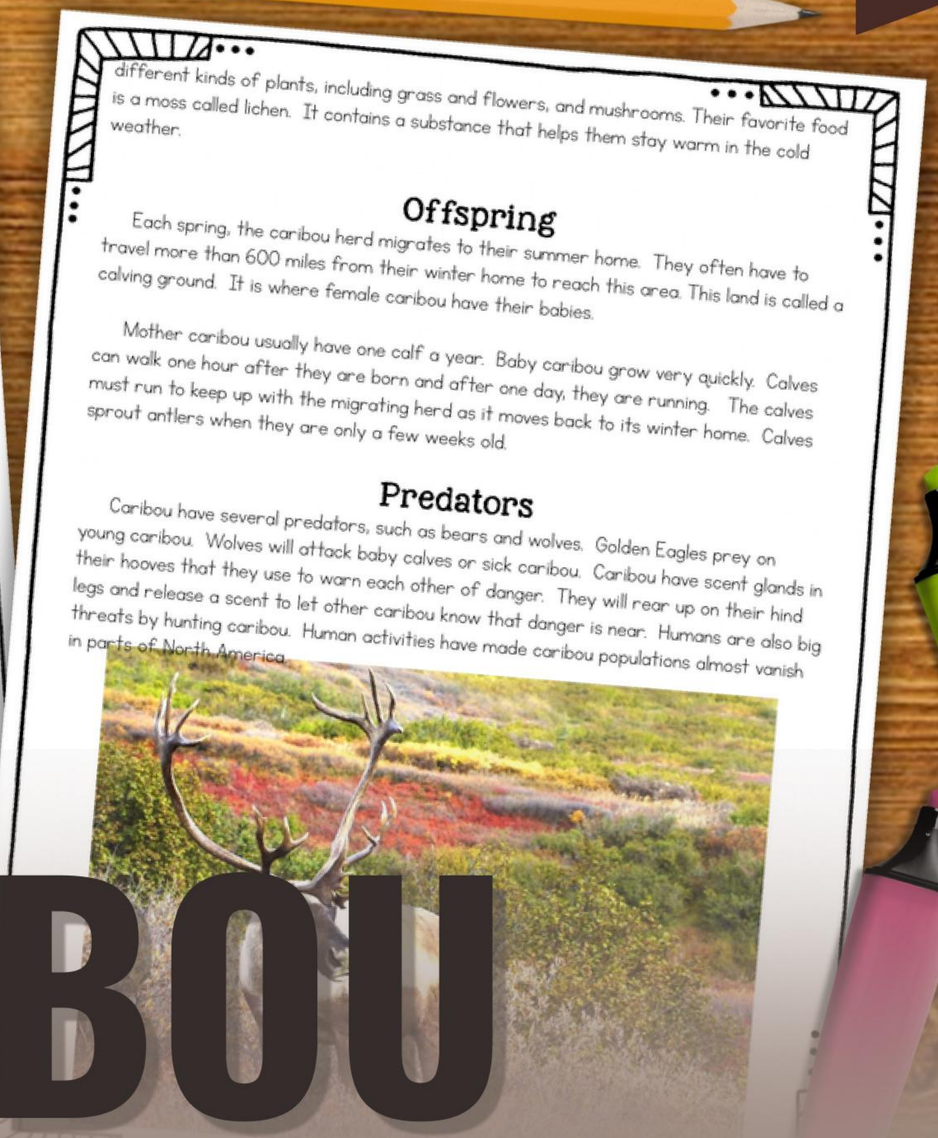
# ARTICLES & ACTIVITIES

GRADES 2–4




# CARIBOU

## PASSAGES, COMPREHENSION, AND MORE!

KEEP SCROLLING TO SEE WHAT'S INSIDE!

# WHAT'S INCLUDED?

- 1-page & 2-page **informational articles**
- **Vocabulary cards** + cut-and-paste activities
- **Note-taking organizers & comprehension questions**
- **Fact sort** activities
- Informational **writing pages**
- Answer keys
- QR codes for safe **video research**



the horns on the head of a adult deer





a large group of animals that live together

antlers

herd

# VOCABULARY CARDS

Name: _____

# Caribou Vocabulary Activity

Cut out the words and definitions. Match them with the pictures.

| Picture | Word | Definition |
|---|---|---|
|  | | |
|  | | |
|  | | |
|  | | |

# Caribou Vocabulary Ac

Cut out the words and definitions. Match them with the p

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **herd** | **antlers** | to move from one place to another because of changing seasons and food |
| **shed** | **hooves** | to loose hair or fur |
| **herbivore** | **predator** | an animal that hunts and eat other animals |
| **lichen** | **migrate** | a large group animals that together |

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Name: _____

# Caribou Vocabulary Activity

Fill in the matrix for each word.

| Definition | Characteristics |
|---|---|
| **shed** | |
| Examples | Non-Examples |

| Definition | Characteristics |
|---|---|
| **hooves** | |
| Examples | Non-Examples |

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# VOCABULARY ACTIVITIES

## While You're Reac

Mark with Symbols

| | |
|---|---|
| ! | when you find something interesting |
| ? | when you are unsure or confused by something |
| * | when you find something important that you want to remember |

Highlight with Colors

| | |
|---|---|
| yellow | vocabulary words or key words |
| green | key phrases or definitions |

Make Your Own Notations

| symbol or color | meaning |
|---|---|
| | |
| | |
| | |

# Caribou

Caribou are related to elk and moose. They are sometimes called reindeer. Caribou live in the arctic regions of northern Asia, Europe, and North America. They like to travel in large herds that number more than 50,000.

## Appearance

Caribou have thick, white and brown fur that keeps them warm in the freezing cold weather. Male caribou are called bulls and female caribou are called cows. Unlike other members of the deer family, both male and female caribou have antlers. The antlers of a male caribou can grow to be three feet tall! Caribou shed and grow new antlers every year.

Caribou have special feet that change with the seasons. Large hooves help them balance on snow or paddle in the water when they swim. Their hooves are also sharp, which helps caribou dig out food from beneath snow, and cling to rocks and ice. In warm weather, caribou grow soft, large pads on their feet that help them grip slippery hillsides. Caribou are excellent swimmers. They have special fur that helps them float. They are also strong runners and can run 50 miles per hour.

## Diet and Feeding

Caribou are herbivores, which means that they eat plants. They spend most of the day eating. Caribou eat many different kinds of plants, including grass and flowers, and mushrooms. Their favorite food is a moss called lichen. It contains a substance that helps them stay warm in the cold weather.

## Offspring

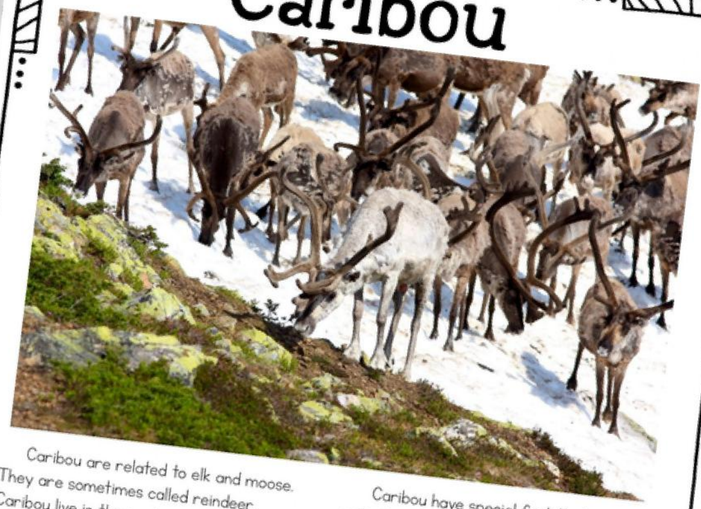
Each spring, the caribou herd migrates to their summer home. They often have to travel more than 600 miles from their winter home to reach this area. This land is called a calving ground. It is where female caribou have their babies.

Mother caribou usually have one calf a year. Baby caribou gr can walk one hour after they are born and after one day, they a must run to keep up with the migrating herd as it moves back to sprout antlers when they are only a few weeks old.

## Predators

Caribou have several predators, such as bears and wolves. young caribou. Wolves will attack baby calves or sick caribou. their hooves that they use to warn each other of danger. The legs and release a scent to let other caribou know that danger threats by hunting caribou. Human activities have made carib in parts of North America.





Caribou

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Diet and Feeding

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**CLOSE READING BOOKMARK PAGE**

**INFORMATIONAL ARTICLE**

# WEBSITES


SEARCH
SHOP
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC KIDS
GAMES
VIDEOS
ANIMALS
EXPLORE MORE
SUBSCRIBE
1/3
Caribou feed mostly on grasses and plants in the summer and eat lichen and mushrooms during winter.
PHOTOGRAPH BY JEFF MCGRAW, SHUTTERSTOCK


Caribou Migration to the Arctic | BBC Studios
3:29 / 4:08


Websites
This animal article comes with a Google Site that students can use for further research. The Google Site contains the same URLs as the QR Codes.
Google Site:
or: http://bit
If you find any links that do not work, please email me and I will fix it promptly. Videos are from a variety of websites, including YouTube (via SafeShare or SafeTube). There are two pages of QR Codes. One page has the YouTube link and the other page has the SafeTube link. Make sure you can access YouTube or SafeTube at your school.
Websites
http://www.biokids.umich.edu/critters/Rangifer_tarandus/
https://video.disney.com/watch/caribou-4be70e9f2729bb6a6e9faf04
https://video.link/w/Bmqu
YouTube


Websites
Caribou
Videos
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Caribou Note Taking Sheet

Name:

Three Other Facts

Appearance

Habitat

Diet & Feeding

Offspring

Caribou Note Taking Sheet

Name:

Appearance

Habitat

Diet & Feeding

Offspring

Note Taking Sheet

Name:

What makes the caribou unique?

Describe a caribou's habitat:

Write three facts about the caribou:

Fact

Fact

Fact

Describe why and how caribou travel to their sum

Other Information:

What I Remember About the Caribou

Name:

1. What does a caribou look like?

2. Describe a caribou's habitat.

3. What and how does a caribou eat?

4. Describe a caribou's offspr

Caribou Cloze Read

Name:

Use the word bank to fill in the sentences.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| antlers | float | dig | hooves |
| predators | herbivores | lichen | herds |

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Caribou have thick, white and brown c . Keeps t in the freezing cold ther. Both male and female caribou have . Caribou sh ew antlers every year. Caribou special feet that ith the seaso help them balance on snow or paddle in t er when t . Their hooves are also sharp, which helps caribou d from b now, and cling to rocke . In warm weather, caribou gro arge n eir feet that help t excellent s they h special fur that ho y hillsides. Caribou are d are . which means that they eat plants. They spend most the day eating. Their f od is a moss called . It contains a substance th ps them stay warm in the cold weather.

Caribou have several , such as bears and wolves. Caribou have scent glands in their hooves that they use to warn each other of danger. They will rear up on their hind legs and release a scent to let other caribou know that danger is near.

# NOTE TAKING SHEETS

# COMPREHENSION ACTIVITIES

Directions: Cut apart the labels and each fact. Sort the fact into the best category or do an open sort and create your own categories.

**Attributes**
looks, has, is

**Actions**
does, can

**Environment**
where it lives

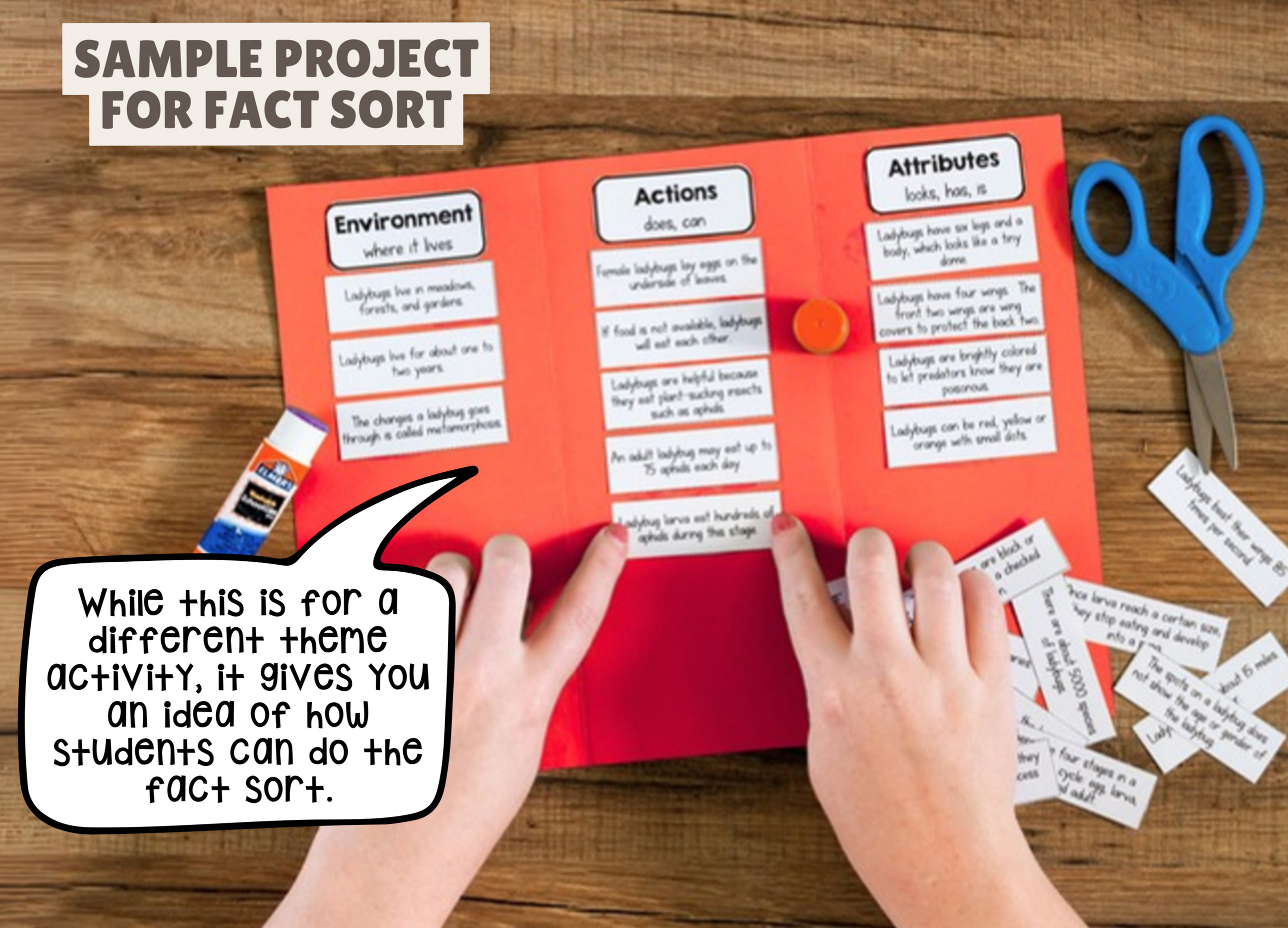
Use the above categories as a set or the below categories as a set. Alternatively, create your own categories.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Caribou have scent glands in their hooves that they use to warn each other of danger. | They like to travel in large herds that number more than 50,000. | The calves must run to keep up with the migrating herd as it moves back to its winter home. |
| Caribou are related to elk and moose. | Lichen contains a substance that helps them stay warm in the cold weather. | Caribou have thick, white and brown fur that keeps them warm in the freezing cold weather. |
| Calves can walk one hour after they are born and after one day, they are r | They are sometimes called | e food is a moss called lichen. |
| Caribou have special feet that change with th | are only | ve in the arctic regions ern Asia, Europe, and orth America. |
| Human activities hav caribou populations almi in parts of North Am | vanish | caribou herd their summer home. |
| They have special fur them flo | where ve their babies. | They spend most of the day eating. |
| They often have to tr el mor than 600 miles from their winter home to reach this area. | Caribou are herbivores, which means that they eat plants. | They will rear up on their hind legs and release a scent to let other caribou know that danger is near. |
| Unlike other members of the deer family, both male and female caribou have antlers. | Caribou have several predators, such as bears and wolves. | They are also strong runners and can run 50 miles per hour. |

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# FACT SORT

# SAMPLE PROJECT FOR FACT SORT






# WAYS TO USE IN THE CLASSROOM

- **Use during winter science or nonfiction reading units**
- **Assign one animal per week for close reading and writing**
- **Add to literacy centers or guided reading groups**
- **Support animal research reports and projects**
- **Leave ready-to-go for sub plans or independent work**

# YOU WILL LOVE THIS BECAUSE



## Perfect Science and ELA Integration

Students read, write, sort, and research while learning about animal adaptations and habitats in cold environments.



## Saves Time With Consistent Layouts

Every animal follows the same structure, making planning simple and allowing teachers to focus on instruction, not prep.



## Supports All Learners With Built-In Scaffolds

Vocabulary cards, fact sorts, and note-taking organizers help struggling readers and writers access complex information.

# TEACHERS LOVE IT!

*This is a good activity to do during the month of December. You can tie it into Santa's reindeer if you want.*

**Wrinkle Your Brain**

*My students had a lot of fun learning about reindeer. This resource has everything you need.*

**Lauren S.**



My passion is making learning accessible to all students. I love scaffolding learning, breaking down the concepts and building them up so that students can see the connections. I love figuring out the small components that build up to the big ideas and helping students see it all.

teach MATH

teach SCIENCE

teach READING

teach WRITING

# *What I have* LEARNED