

Answer Sheet

Scientific Scavenger Hunt Name: ANSWERS

1 Game birds should be classified as prey because they are hunted by other species as a food item (humans, foxes, hawks, etc.) they are adapted with eyes on the side to be able to see predators coming, they are quick to run or flush into flight

2Any of the Chinese pheasants (Reeves, Lady Amherst, Ring-necked, Elliots) have bright colored feathers. They are from dense, mountain forests where it is hard to find them. In order to attract a mate the males have adapted striking colors both to be seen but also to 'show off'.

3 All the female game birds and the bobwhites have drab coloring. The female pheasants have adapted camouflaged feathers because they need to be able to hide when incubating a nest of eggs. The male bobwhites (native to Michigan) do not need showy colors because they live in open grassland habitats where they can more easily find a mate but could be easily picked off by a predator if they stood out from the vegetation.

4Ducks, geese and swans have long necks, webbed feet and flat beaks for eating aquatic plants/vegetation and organisms.

5 Counting the birds on Wintergreen Lake would tell you which species has the most individual birds and is therefore best suited for Wintergreen Lake habitat. (Canada Geese, mallard ducks or Trumpeter swans are all suitable answers)

6food web

Humans (consumers)

Waterfowl (consumers)

Aquatic plants (producers)

Algae (producer)

Crustacean (consumer)

Fish (consumers)

Aquatic plants (producers)

Algae (producer)

Crustacean (consumer)

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7 Defining characteristics of predators are a sharp, hooked beak, large eyes on the front of the head and sharp talons on their feet.

8 The Sanctuary's captive Barred Owl is missing an eye. This impairs its flight and ability to find and capture prey. Also because it was injured as a young bird it was not a good enough hunter to compensate for the loss of sight.

9 He was born in 1985 so he would be 29 in 2014.

10 Flower shapes have evolved for the insects and birds that pollinate them.

11 sunflower seeds, thistle seeds or nectar from the hummingbird feeder.

12 Seed eaters have thicker beaks/bills for cracking seeds to get at the food inside.

Notes

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