

# Seasons of a Black Bear

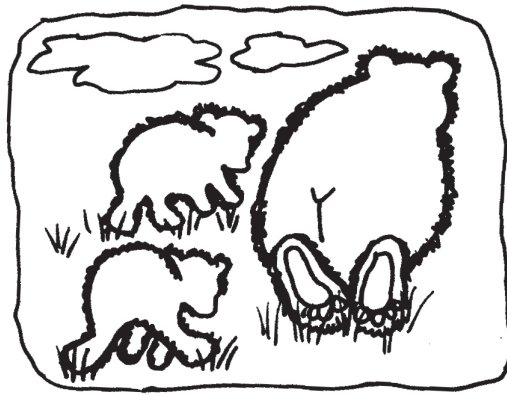
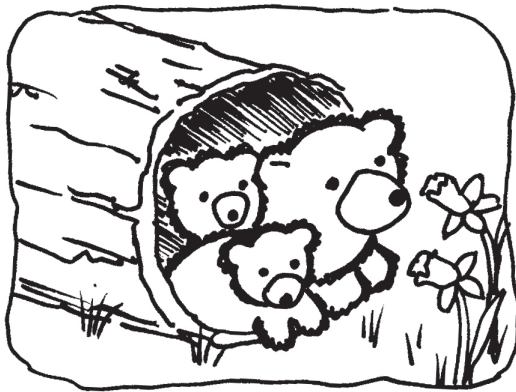


W  
I  
N  
T  
E  
R



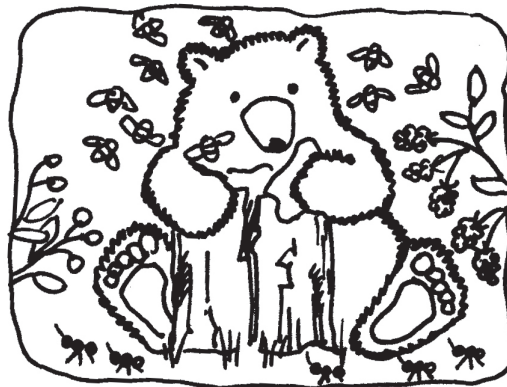
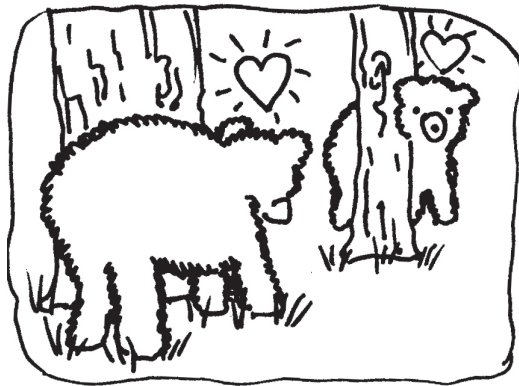
December - January - February

S  
P  
R  
I  
N  
G



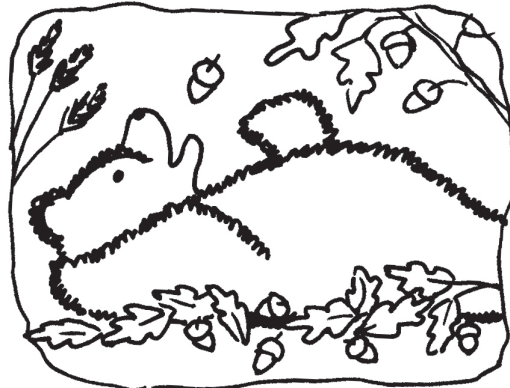
March - April - May

S  
U  
M  
M  
E  
R



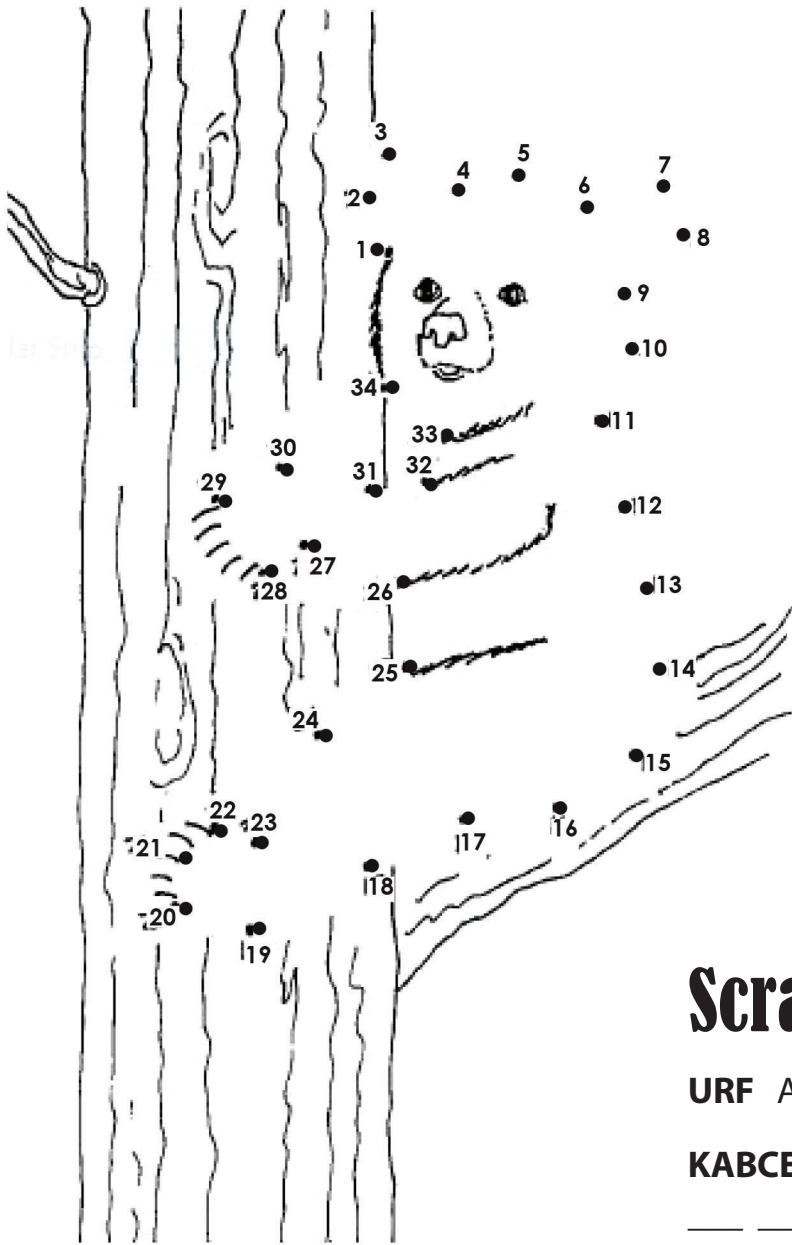
June - July - August

F  
A  
L  
L



September - October - November

BearWise Facts and Fun



# Black Bear Hibernation Facts

Bears may make their winter homes or dens out of a tree's root system, in a hollow tree or log, in the crevice of a rock, under a brush pile or even beneath a building.

Bear cubs are born in their den while the mother bear is hibernating.

Bears do not eat, drink, poop or pee during hibernation. They recycle their waste and survive off their body fat throughout hibernation.

Bears in the southern U.S. may not hibernate at all due to the warmer weather and food availability all winter long.

## Scrambled Words

**URF** A bear's covering. \_\_\_ \_ \_

**KABCEBLSRA** Live in most states and Canada.  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**SCWLA** On a bear, these are sharp and curved.  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**RISEREB** Bears eat lots of these in summer.  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**LEMSL** This sense helps bears find food.  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**GREINAH** Bears have a very good sense of  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**DNE** Where a bear spends the winter. \_\_\_ \_ \_



Learn more about bears:  
**BearWise.org**

## Connect the Dots

### Who is sitting in the tree?

Bear cubs learn to climb trees when they first come out of the den. Mother bears send cubs up a tree when there is a threat of danger. Sometimes she uses a tree as a "babysitter." The cubs will stay in the tree until she calls them down.

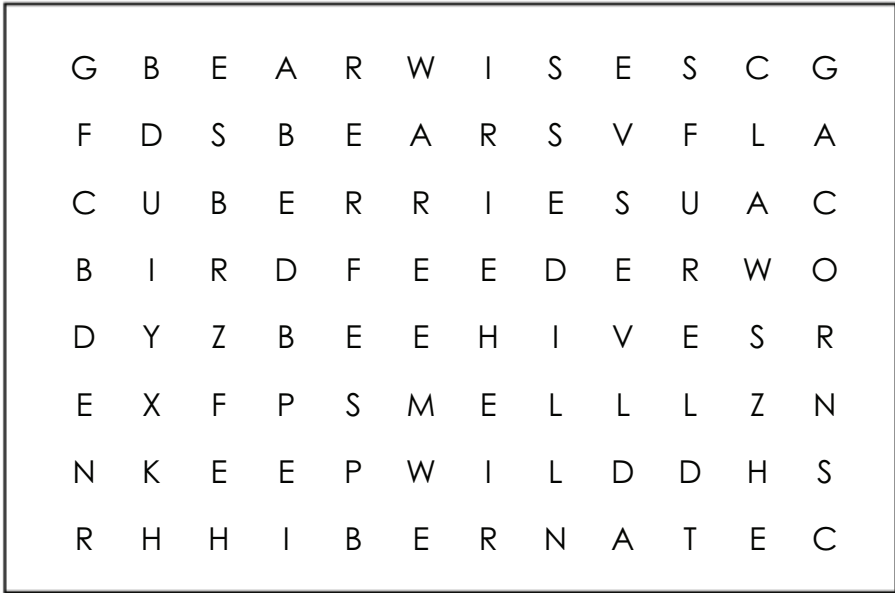
#### Older bears climb trees for 3 reasons:

1. To eat something in the tree.
2. To rest or sleep.
3. To escape from danger.

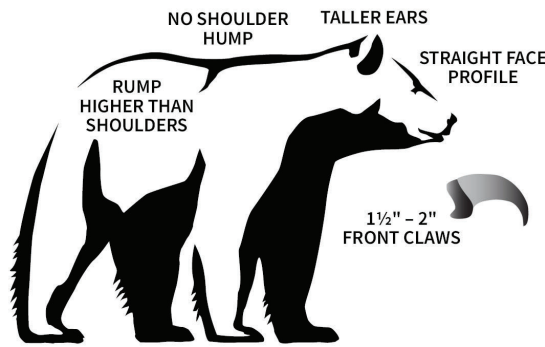
Scrambled Answers: Fur, Black Bears, Claws, Berries, Smell, Hearing, Den

# Word Search

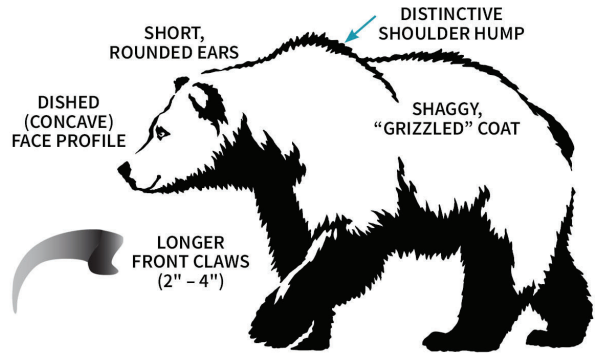
- bears
- acorns
- berries
- smell
- beehives
- birdfeeder
- bearwise
- claws
- den
- fur
- hibernate
- cub
- keep wild



## Can you tell a black bear from a grizzly?



**BLACK BEAR**



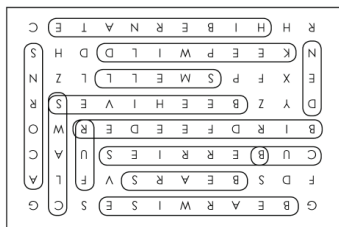
**GRIZZLY BEAR**

## What color is a black bear?

- Black
- Brown
- Cinnamon
- Blonde
- Blue-Grey
- White
- All of the above

If you picked "All of the above," you're pretty smart.

Black bear is a species, *Ursus americanus*, not a color. Black bears come in more colors than any other North American mammal.

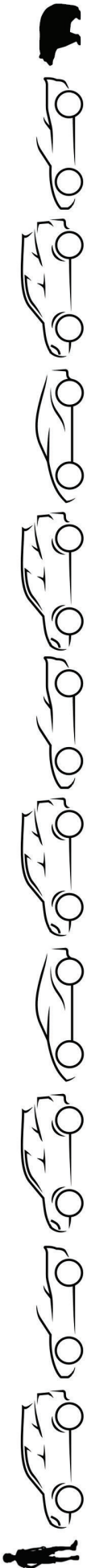


## Where do bears live in North America?

**American black bears** live throughout North America, from Alaska and Canada to Mexico.

**Grizzly bears** live in Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, Washington, Alaska and Canada.

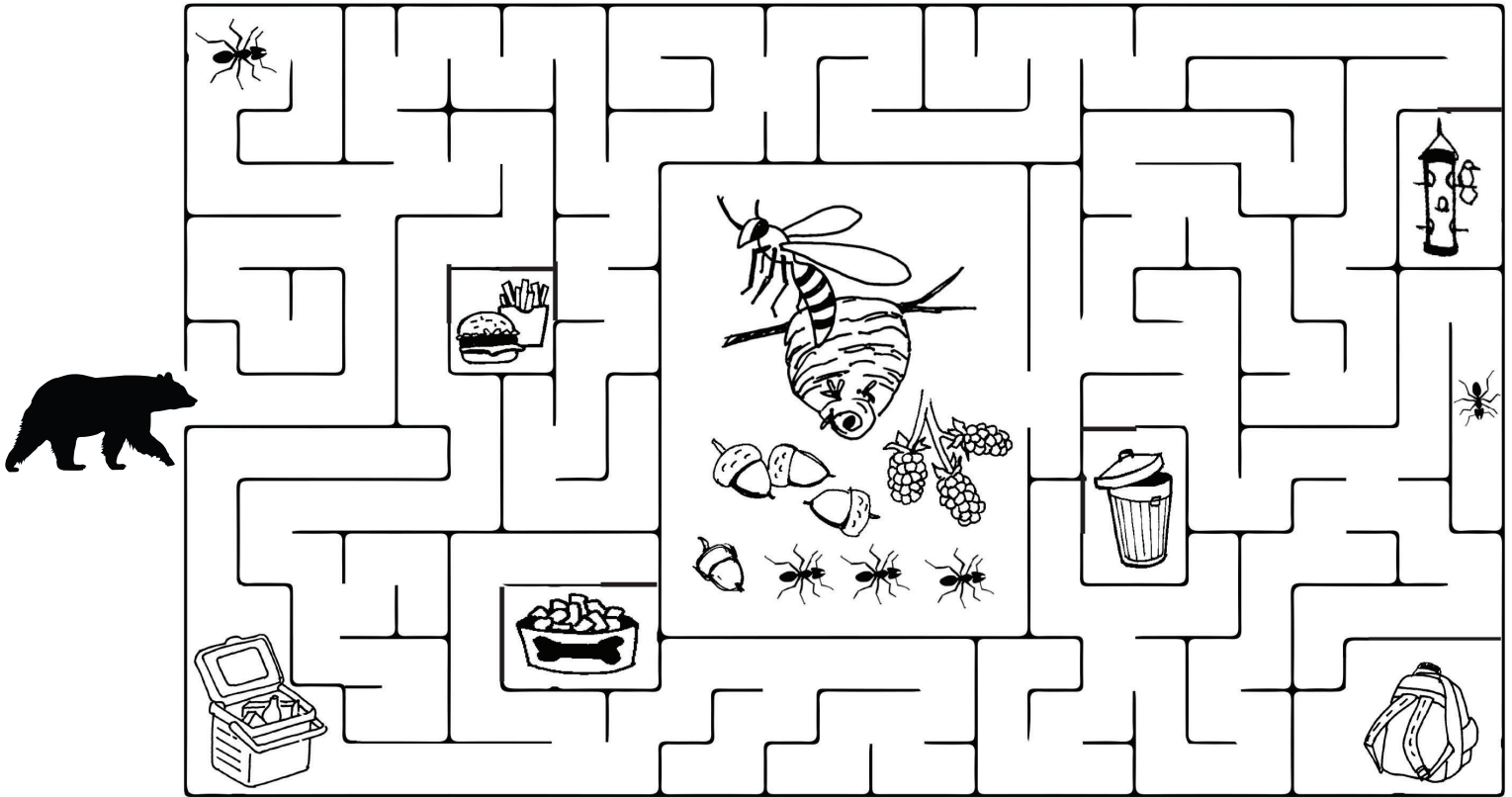
**WARNING: Bears are wild animals and can be dangerous and unpredictable. Never approach bears or allow them to approach you! How far away should you be from a black bear? At least 50 yards (50 meters) ... that's about 10 car lengths.**



Note: Safe viewing distance for grizzly bears is 100 yards (100 meters) or 20 car lengths. Remember: if your presence causes the bear's behavior to change in any way, you are too close.



Help the bear find his natural food.



## Be BearWise When Visiting Bear Country and at Home



Art by Evelyn Kirkaldy

- ✓ **DO** pay attention to what's going on around you when outdoors. Leave earbuds and phones in your pocket.
- ✓ **DO** stay together when you're outside. **DON'T** run ahead or lag behind others.
- ✓ **DON'T** feed bears or try to get close to them.
- ✓ **DO** keep your camp and picnic site super clean.
- ✓ **DON'T** leave food, trash or pet food outdoors when no one is around. A few seconds is all it takes for a hungry bear to swipe it.
- ✓ **DON'T** store ANYTHING that smells in your tent. Food, candy, snacks, empty packages and cans, and even toothpaste and sunscreen smell tasty to a bear.
- ✓ **DO** put trash only in bear-resistant cans or dumpsters, or inside a sturdy building.
- ✓ **DO** keep dogs leashed at all times.
- ✓ **DO** take down bird feeders when bears are around. Bears love birdseed and hummingbird nectar.

