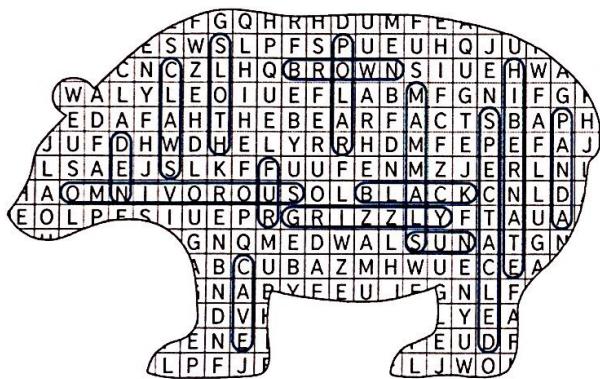


Distribute 'The bear facts' worksheet and ask pupils to read the short text. Help as necessary, or read aloud to the pupils checking unknown vocabulary as it arises. Ask pupils to find the answers to the following questions:

1. Are bears mammals, reptiles or amphibians?
2. Do you know which bear is the biggest?
3. What do bears eat?
4. Do bears hibernate (sleep) during the winter?
5. Do you know what a baby bear is called?

Next ask pupils to find the 16 underlined words in the wordsearch. Pupils may work in pairs if they wish. Circulate and help as necessary and check pupils' understanding.

Key



Make a 'bear wheel'

Refer pupils to 'The bear facts' worksheet and ask them to name the different types of bears. Explain to pupils that they are going to make a 'bear wheel' in order to find out more about the eight types of bears. Write the names of the following bears on the board: *giant panda, American black bear, Asiatic black bear, sloth bear, polar bear, brown/grizzly bear, spectacled bear and sun bear*. Activate children's previous knowledge about the different bears, e.g. 'What colour is the panda/polar bear?' 'Where does the panda live?' 'What does the polar bear eat?' 'Can bears swim?' 'Can bears climb trees?' 'Where does the brown bear live?'

Distribute the 'bear wheel' sheets and explain how to make the wheel. Make one yourself beforehand so you can demonstrate confidently to pupils. Cut out the wheels. Cut out the flap on wheel one and fold it up so that it can be opened and closed easily. Put wheel one on top of wheel two and join together at the centre with a paper fastener.

Children can move the handle with arrows on wheel two to reveal descriptions of the eight different types of bears. Read the descriptions together and encourage pupils to guess which bear is being described. They then copy the name from the board on to the description wheel. Make sure pupils understand that they must write the bear names under the flap opposite the description. The giant panda has been provided as an example. Once they have made their wheels, ask pupils to identify the pictures of the bears on wheel one.

Next divide the pupils into pairs. Pupil A turns her wheel to a bear description and reads the first sentence making sure the flap is down. Pupil B tries to guess which bear is being described. If she can't guess, Pupil A reads the next sentence, continuing until Pupil B guesses the bear. They lift the flap to confirm the correct answer and then exchange roles.

Key

Giant panda – It's black and white. It lives in China. It eats bamboo. It can climb trees. It does not hibernate.

American black bear – It lives in North America. It's black but can also be brown or light brown. It eats meat, fish, insects, fruit, nuts and honey. It hibernates. It can climb trees.

Sloth bear – It's got white fur. It lives in North America and Asia. It can swim and dive. It eats seals. It hibernates.

Brown/grizzly bear – It's got brown fur. It lives in Asia, Europe and North America. It can run very fast. It eats plants, nuts, roots, insects, meat and fish. It's the biggest bear. It hibernates.

Polar bear – It's got white fur. It lives in North America and Asia. It can swim and dive. It eats seals. It hibernates.

Sun bear – It's the smallest bear. It lives in South-East Asia. It's got short, black fur. It eats insects, small animals, fruit and honey. It does not hibernate. It can climb trees.

Asiatic black bear – It lives in Southern and Eastern Asia. It's black. It eats small animals, insects, fruit and nuts. It can climb trees. Some hibernate.

Spectacled bear – It lives in South America. It's got black fur and white fur around its eyes. It can climb trees. It eats plants, fruit and small animals. It does not hibernate.

Bears in danger

Notes. The bear's habitat is becoming smaller and smaller as more forests are cut down and land is cultivated for farmland and homes. Some bears are shot by hunters and their hides and heads used as wall hangings and trophies. Other body parts are kept as