

Groundhog Worksheets

A worksheet for Groundhog Day. At the top, there is a line for the child's name. Below it is a large title 'My Groundhog Story'. To the left of the title are two cartoon groundhogs holding small flags. The text 'Groundhog Day is observed in North America on February 2 of every year. Do you know the story behind this day?' is written in a box. Below the text is a photograph of a real groundhog in its burrow. To the right of the photo is a box containing the text 'The story behind Groundhog Day'. There is also a small 'Next' label at the bottom right.

Name: _____

Knowing A Groundhog



There are a lot of interesting things we can learn about groundhogs. Let us identify the words that are described and hunt for the answers in the puzzle. Color answers.

B	W	W	D	S	W	O	R	R	U	B	M	T
K	C	U	H	C	D	O	O	W	M	F	M	H
P	D	G	P	M	F	K	G	C	A	K	G	I
L	I	W	C	S	Y	S	X	T	W	B	N	I
L	C	C	L	A	N	R	U	I	D	A	I	
M	A	R	M	O	T	M	C	T	K	S	M	
Y	E	O	X	R	O	D	E	N	T	W	M	
A	G	O	N	I	S	T	I	C	J	D	I	
Q	P	N	R	X	S	F	K	R	D	Z	W	
H	I	B	E	R	N	A	T	I	N	O	S	

1. State groundhogs go into in the month of October
2. Term used for animals active in the morning and early evening like groundhogs
3. Common name for a groundhog
4. Groundhogs are a member of this species
5. A classification of the groundhog
6. These are underground tunnels groundhogs love digging
7. Aside from digging, groundhogs are excellent in this skill
8. The number of days of the female groundhog's gestation
9. General behavior of groundhogs, especially to threats
10. Gathered and stored in the groundhog's body during very long months which helps regulate their bodies during hibernation

Groundhog Worksheet

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Groundhog Facts



Groundhog, otherwise known as woodchuck, is one amongst the fourteen species of enormous ground squirrels known as Marmots. They hibernate through winter to spring and eat all summer to build up fat reserves.

ALL ABOUT GROUNDHOG

- ★ Groundhogs are rodents that are considered to be the largest members of the squirrel family. These rodents measures 17.75 to 24 inches long from head to rump according to National Geographic. They weigh up to 13 lbs (6kg) and their tail can reach 18cm long. When they stand up on their hind legs, they look like small bears. Having sharp claws, groundhogs can dig large underground burrows. These rodents have incisors that grow during warm months by 1/16 inch each week.
- ★ **Behaviour.** Aside from being excellent burrow diggers, they also have excellent swimming and climbing capabilities. They usually climb when escaping a threat or when they want to check their surroundings. Groundhogs are known to be antagonistic and dominant among their own species. They are mostly herbivorous and are most active in the morning and evening, eating grasses and other vegetation. They feed vigorously in summer and late-summer, collecting immense fat stores for the winter.



Groundhog Facts

MORE ABOUT GROUNDHOG



Groundhog in its burrow by the zoo

★ **Habitat.** Groundhogs are found distinctly in North America. They like to stay on the end of woodlands and open spaces. They can dig deep and extensive burrows that can be 6 feet deep and 20 feet wide. They use these burrows for sleeping, rearing, and hibernating. Usually, they have a burrow in the forested areas for the winter and in lush regions for the hotter months.

★ **Hibernation.** This animal is one of the few species that truly hibernates. In winter, groundhogs enter into hibernation where their body temperature drops, adapting to the ambient temperature of their burrow. Their heartbeat slows down from 80 beats to 5 beats per minute. At this time, these rodents experience arousal. When they come out in the month of February, the male searches for females' burrows. They come out of hibernation with some remaining fats to sustain them until they can feed heavily again.

★ **Reproduction.** Following hibernation is usually the breeding season. During pregnancy, the male and female groundhog stay together in the same den. After a month, the mother gives birth to 2 to 6 young, which are called kits, pups, or chucklings. At the time of birth, the male leaves the female groundhog and returns when the young are introduced to the wild. In two years, the young groundhogs reach maturity. The typical lifespan of a groundhog in the wild is three to six years.



GROUND HOG Facts



Groundhog claw marks

Fun Facts

- ★ The groundhog's after hibernation behavior prompted the observance of Groundhog Day.
- ★ Groundhogs are capable of building complex and intricate burrows.
- ★ A groundhog is known to be responsible for uncovering a historic village in Ohio, USA, considered now as an archeological site.

Groundhog Known Threats. The groundhog is considered as least concern on the International Union of Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species. But they pose a threat to agriculture and residential developments. Here are signs of damage that can help detect groundhog presence nearby: wide teeth marks on wood/low lying trees, mounds of soil outside a burrow entrance, deep holes in the ground, damaged crops, weakened building foundations, chewed tubings, and claw markings.

LEGACY: GROUNDHOG DAY

- ★ Groundhog Day rose from a popular legend in the United States that when a groundhog emerges from hibernation each year, if it doesn't see its shadow due to clear weather, it goes back to its burrow for another 6 weeks.



According to the story, from hibernation, groundhogs check their shadow to know if spring is coming or still winter.



Name: _____

My Groundhog Story



Groundhog Day is observed in North America on February 2 of every year. Do you know the story behind this day?



The story behind Groundhog Day



Early celebration and impact

GROUNDHOG DAY-FEB 2



Name: _____

Knowing A Groundhog



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L	I	W	C	S	Y	S	X	T	W	B	N	R
L	C	C	L	A	N	R	U	I	D	A	I	T
M	A	R	M	O	T	M	C	T	K	S	M	Y
Y	E	O	X	R	O	D	E	N	T	W	M	R
A	G	O	N	I	S	T	I	C	J	D	I	R
Q	P	N	R	X	S	F	K	R	D	Z	W	B
H	I	B	E	R	N	A	T	I	O	N	S	P

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8. The number of days of the female groundhog's gestation
9. General behavior of groundhogs, especially to threats
10. Gathered and stored in the groundhog's body during warm months which helps regulates their bodies during hibernation



Knowing A Groundhog



ANSWER KEY

B	W	W	D	S	W	O	R	R	U	B	M	T
K	C	U	H	C	D	O	O	W	M	F	M	H
P	D	G	P	M	F	K	G	C	A	K	G	I
L	I	W	C	S	Y	S	X	T	W	B	N	R
L	C	C	L	A	N	R	U	I	D	A	I	T
M	A	R	M	O	T	M	C	T	K	S	M	Y
Y	E	O	X	R	O	D	E	N	T	W	M	R
A	G	O	N	I	S	T	I	C	J	D	I	R
Q	P	N	R	X	S	F	K	R	D	Z	W	B
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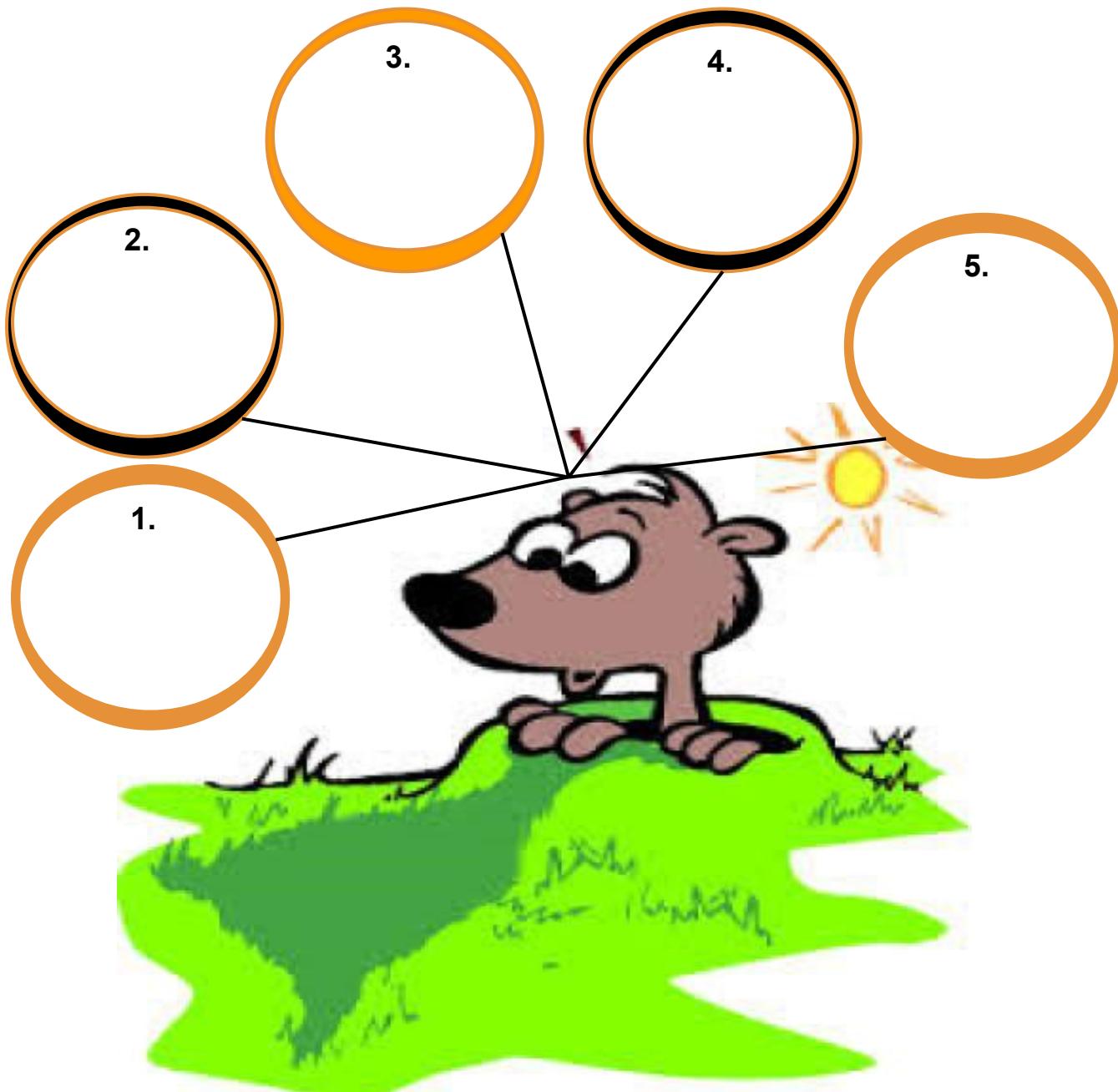


Name: _____

Groundhog Signs Of Damages



At certain times, groundhogs are considered destructive due to certain behavior. On the circles, give at least 5 signs of damage that indicate a groundhog is present in the area.



Groundhog Signs Of Damages



ANSWER KEY

2.

mounds of soil
outside a burrow
entrance

3.

holes in the
ground

4.

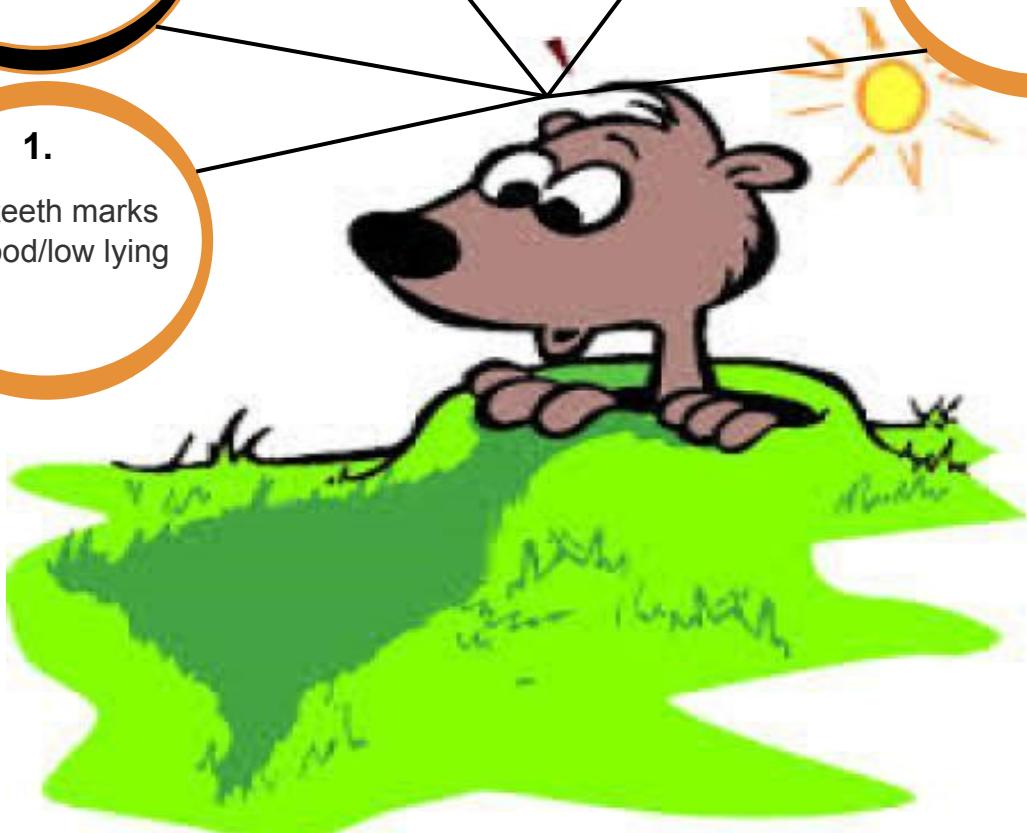
weakened building
foundations

1.

wide teeth marks
on wood/low lying
trees

5.

claw marks



Name: _____

Groundhog Or A Small Bear?



Groundhogs and brown small bears are sometimes mistaken for each other due to their appearance when groundhogs stand on their hind legs. Let us differentiate between them. List down physical characteristics of a small bear and a Groundhog.

BEAR

FACT 1

FACT 2

FACT 3

FACT 4



GROUNDHOG

FACT 1

FACT 2

FACT 3

FACT 4



Groundhog Or A Small Bear?



ANSWER KEY

BEAR

FACT 1

they are considered the largest extant species

FACT 2

they weigh from 60 lbs to 1500 lbs

FACT 3

they come in black, brown, white, and cinnamon colors

FACT 4

their length ranges from 3 to 10 feet



GROUNDHOG

FACT 1

they are the largest squirrel

FACT 2

they weigh up to 6 lbs

FACT 3

body length up to 50 cm

FACT 4

thick fur in various shades of brown



Name: _____

Creative Writing: Burrows Found



It's near winter and the groundhogs are gearing up for hibernation. Dig dig dig they go and mounds appear everywhere. I wonder... have they found treasure unknown? Let's find out.

Create a short story with the main idea of a groundhog digging burrows and accidentally find treasure. Make the setting of the story amongst the groundhogs.

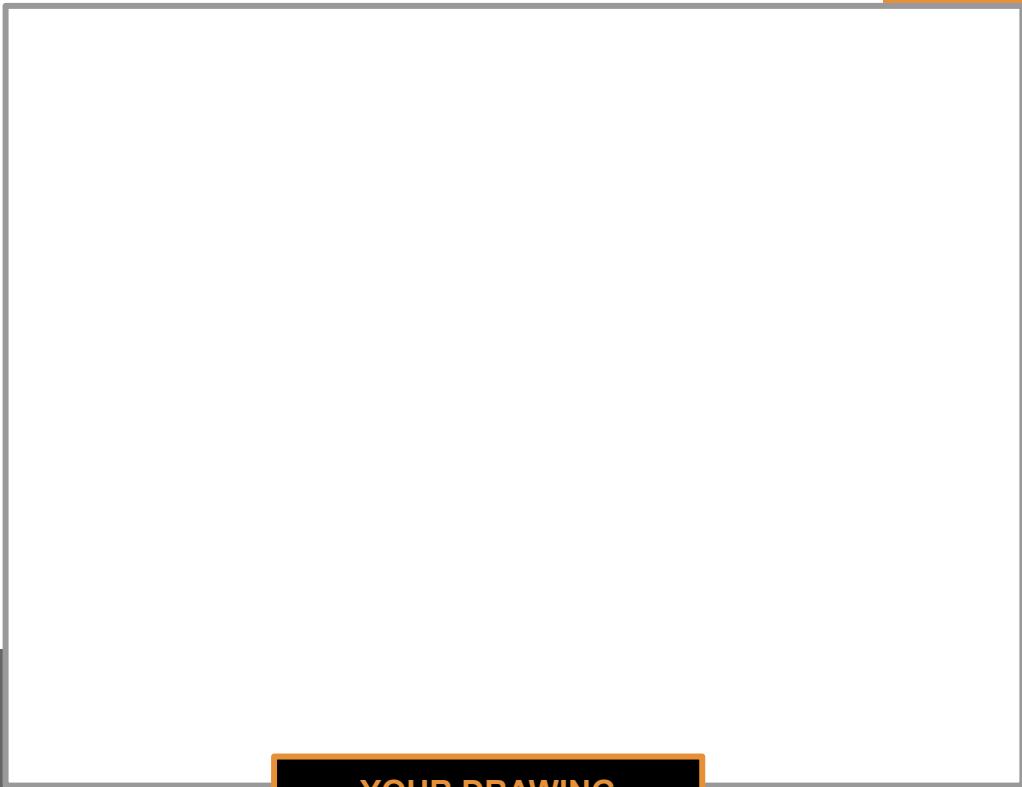


Name: _____

MY Groundhog Version



Create a cartoon drawing of a groundhog based on your understanding of its description. Write a brief description of your picture.



YOUR DRAWING

DESCRIPTION

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin gray border, designed for a child to write a brief description of their drawing. The box is positioned on a green grassy hill.

Name: _____

Facts About Groundhog



A groundhog is an animal perceived to be solitary and is territorial. He seeks to establish dominance among his group. Here are other known facts of this animal. Fill in the box with the correct answer.

With their long, sharp claws, groundhogs dig complex multi-chamber tunnels called

Groundhogs are active in the morning and early evening; thus, they are

Groundhogs communicate with one another through a

Groundhogs are also known as

The date Groundhog Day is celebrated in North America is



Facts About Groundhog



ANSWER KEY

With their long, sharp claws, groundhogs dig complex multi-chamber tunnels called

burrows

Groundhogs are active in the morning and early evening; thus, they are

diurnal

Groundhogs communicate with one another through a

high squeal

Groundhogs are also known as

woodchucks

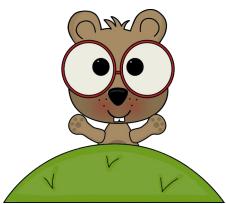
The date Groundhog Day is celebrated in North America is

Feb. 2



Name: _____

Who Is Groundhog?



Given the facts about Groundhogs, state in your own words the following aspects:



Name: _____

Groundhog Acrostic



It's all about GROUNDHOG. Use the letters of the word "GROUNDHOG" as the first letter of descriptive sentences about this animal.



G is for

R is for

O is for

U is for

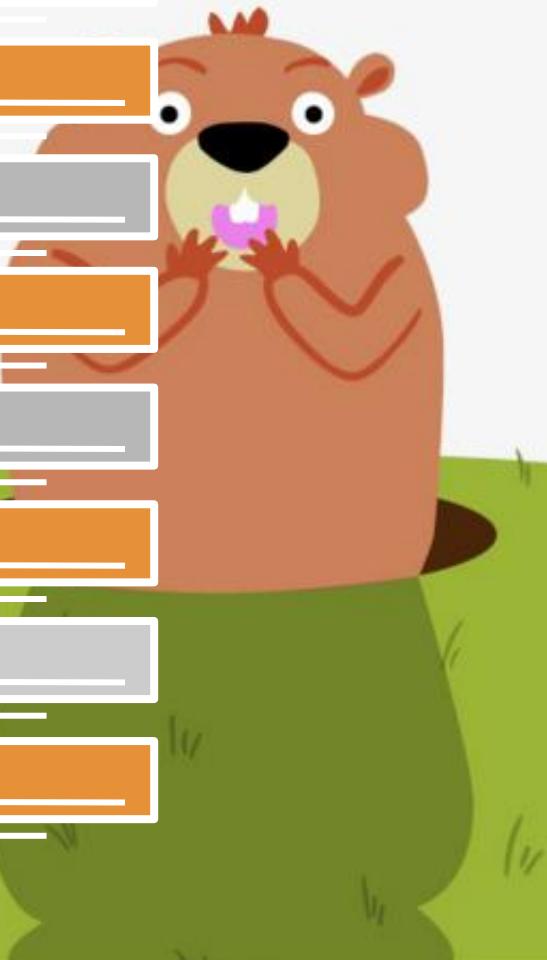
N is for

D is for

H is for

O is for

G is for



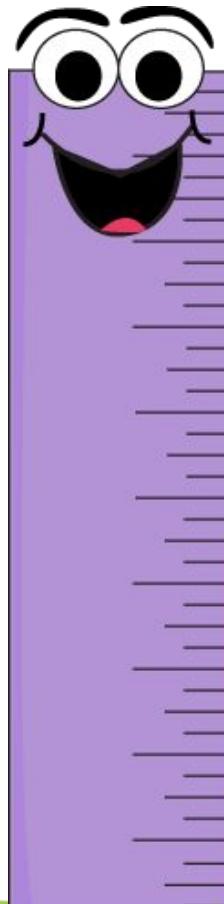
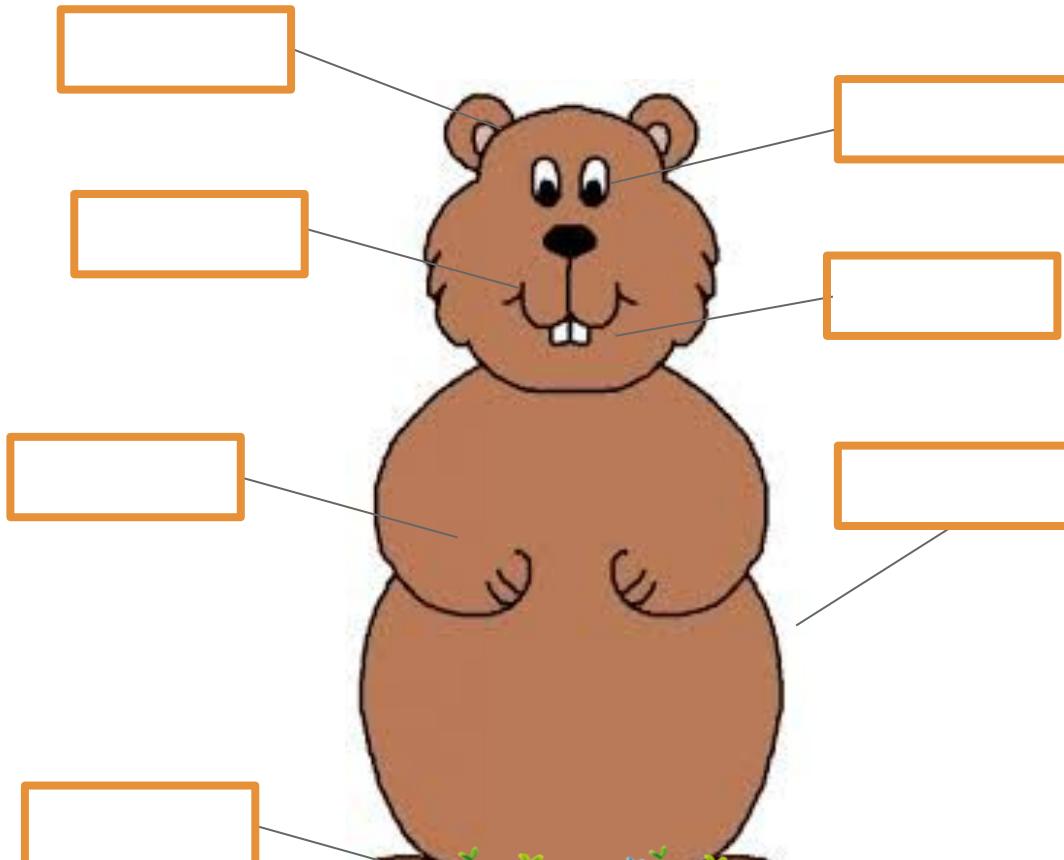
Name: _____

Body Parts Of A Groundhog



Let's identify and measure the body parts of a groundhog.

Height



Body Parts Of A Groundhog



ANSWER KEY

Height

68.5 cm

EARS

EYES

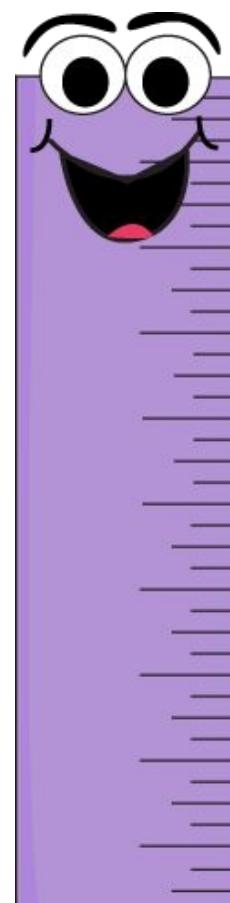
WHISKERS

TEETH

HANDS

FUR

CLAWS



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Rajewski, G. (2019). Five Things You Didn't Know about

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