



Wolves  
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### **Chapter 1:Introduction**

In this book you will learn about wolves. After you read this book you will learn how wolves hunt, the packs ranks, body language and more.

## **Chapter 2: What is a wolf?**

A wolf is a mammal! A mammal grows fur or hair. It gives birth to live babies so it doesn't lay eggs. A mammal baby drinks milk from its mother.

A wolf is also part of the canine family such as dogs, wolves, jackals, coyotes and foxes.

Wolves live in most of Asia(in China, India, Turkey and Mongolia.) and some of North America (in Canada and the top half of the United States, including Alaska.) and Europe(in Europe, the wolf population is scattered around.). Wolves live in dens. Their dens are in forests, near mountains or in grasslands. As you can see, wolves are very adaptable.

## **Chapter 3: The wolves prey and predators**

Wolves hunt deer, elk, moose, bison, sheep, oxen and caribou. What the wolves hunt depends on what's around them. Wolves in the forest might eat deer while wolves in the mountain might eat bighorn sheep. Adult wolves eat two and a half pounds of food (meat) they hunt a day to keep healthy and stay energized.

Wolves are very strong predators but there are animals that eat wolves including grizzly and polar bears, scavengers, tigers and humans. It's extremely rare, but sometimes a wolf will eat another wolf.



Grizzly bears and wolves do not often cross paths. When they cross paths the side who wins often depends on strength. If there are more males than females on the wolves side the wolves get an advantage. If the fight is right after the grizzlies hibernation, the wolves will definitely win. But if it's like the bear has just gotten ready to hibernate in autumn, the bear takes the advantage, which means he/she would win the battle.



#### **Chapter 4: How they hunt**

Wolves usually hunt at night. They leave an adult behind to take care of the pups.

The wolf pack's control a piece of land called a territory, in their territory they hunt and survive. Wolves often try to break out the

hurt animals such as the young, older or sick animals, to attack, those animals are easier to attack than a normal animal that is not at all weak. Smaller animals such as deer kids or lamb are part of the animals that will flee, but larger animals have options to fight the wolves. If the animal decides to fight, the wolves will form a circle and wait for the right opportunity to attack. But, if their prey is hard to attack because that prey is strong and not tired from the challenge, then the wolves might choose to hunt something else.

Wolves take down their prey by latching their jaws into their prey's nose and holding on tight. The prey often dies because of blood loss or shock.

Then, when the prey has been hunted, the alphas, the leaders of the pack will eat first, then the beta wolves, who are second in line from being a leader. That means, if the alpha wolf dies, the beta becomes the leader of the wolf pack. After this order, the rest of the wolves will have their food.

## **Chapter 5: Types and how they look**

The three main types of wolves are: the Ethiopian wolf, the Red wolf and the Gray wolf.

Some of the characteristics of the Ethiopian wolves include pointed ears, a black tail and orangish fur.

Some of the characteristics of the red wolves are that they are brown with reddish fur. They have pointed ears and large heads.

Some of the characteristics of the grey wolves are that they have gold yellow or brownish eyes. It is rare but sometimes a grey wolf might have pale green eyes. They usually have gray fur but some have white or black fur. Their height is about 26 to 32 inches.



## **Chapter 6: Packs**

Wolves live in groups called packs. There are usually between three and twenty wolves in a pack. When a female wolf meets a male wolf and they have pups that is a sign of a new pack.

### Ranks

Wolves fight for a higher rank.

### Alpha Wolves

The highest ranking wolves of a pack, there are two and they are male and female. They are mates and will have pups.

### Medicine Wolf

The wolf who takes care of sick or injured wolves. A medicine wolf can have an apprentice, but a medicine wolf can't have pups.(Even with the alphas permission!)

### Beta

Beta is the second highest rank. There are two and they can breed with each other and get pups with the leaders (alphas) permission.

### Delta

The delta is the third-highest rank in a wolf pack, there is usually one delta in a pack.

### Omega

The omegas in a pack are the wolves that have the lowest rank, there are usually only one or two omegas, omegas amuse the other wolves, sort of like a clown or jester.

## Pups

A young wolf or a wolf that has just been born.

### **Chapter 7: Facts**

1. A wolf's sense of smell is known to be 100 times stronger than that of humans.
2. Wolves are the largest of the canine family.
3. They shed hair in the spring and summer like other canines.
4. The scientific name for a wolf is Canis Lupus.
5. Wolves are great swimmers. When hunting ocean animals wolves often swim for miles to catch them.
6. Wolf pups are born in litters. There are usually 4 to 6 littermates, brothers and sisters.

### **Chapter 8: Communication**

Wolves use three ways of wolf communication. If you're wondering, the three ways of wolf communication are sound, scent, and body language.

In the wild, you might see a wolf doing things kind of like ones that a dog would do. This is called body language. Since, the dog and wolf are in the canine family, a dog and wolf use similar body language.

## Body language



You might want to know what wolves are feeling, to find out, read the paragraphs below.

### Angered Wolf

The lips curl up of an angered wolf and you can see its glistening teeth. The angered wolf can also snarl or growl like a dog.

### Frightened Wolf

In a wolf's body language, a frightened wolf will make itself look smaller than usual. Like a dog it may whimper.

### Happiness

If you have a pet dog you may have seen it wag its tail when it is happy, if a wolf is happy the wolf may wag its tail. The tongue might hang out of its mouth too like a dog.

## **Chapter 9: Wolves vs. Coyotes**

### How to tell a wolf from a coyote

A coyote looks like a wolf, they have almost the same appearance so it's hard to tell a wolf from a coyote. In this chapter, we will talk about the differences they have.

A coyote is smaller than a wolf which you can see but you might confuse a young 1 year old or 2 year old wolf with an adult coyote.

If you see a coyote or a wolf in your backyard or in a forest you probably won't weigh it but you can estimate its weight. A wolf weighs about 40 to 175 pounds, a coyote weighs about only 20 to 45 pounds. Okay, since you really don't want to measure or weigh a coyote or wolf the best and safest way to figure out what you saw is the appearance of its coat. The coyotes' coat is a red kind of brown and the wolfs' coat is grey black or white.

The voice of a coyote is high while the voice of a wolf is lower than a coyote. A wolf growls, howls, whimpers and occasionally barks. A coyote makes different noises in different situations, the coyote makes about the same noises as a dog and wolf do.

## **Chapter 10: Are werewolves real?**

Legends of werewolves are not rare but surprisingly common . To tell the truth, legends and myths might exist but no proof has told us that a human can turn into a wolf.

## **Chapter 11: Do wolves howl at the moon?**

Wolves don't howl at the moon. Wolves howl more when there is a full moon but they never howl at it.

## **Chapter 12: Conclusion**

This book talks about the wolves' communication, how the wolf survives, what they eat and how to tell a wolf from a coyote. We also talked about where wolves are located and the wolves pack. There is still more to discover about this amazing creature, it will be discovered by future generations.