



Get outdoors during biboon and enjoy a nature walk

Get outdoors and take a walk through the woods this biboon (winter), but don't go alone. Always ask an adult to come along with you, and don't forget to bundle up.

While on your nature walk, look for signs of awesiinhyag (wild animals) and bineshiinhyag (birds). Animals and birds not only leave footprints, but you can see where they may have eaten bark from trees, you can spot nests in the trees, and you can even find different types of scat (poop).

Have some fun and make your own tracks in the snow! It's great to be outside in the winter and explore what nature has to offer.

The woods are full of different kinds of tracks. See how many different prints you can find, and then figure out whose tracks were whose. Cut out and bring along these identification cards, or take pictures of the tracks and figure out which animal was in the woods when you get home.

The Ojibwe have different names for the animals, they are: makwa (bear), ma'iingan (wolf), waabooz (rabbit), mizise (turkey), waagosh (fox), esiban (raccoon), waawaashkeshi (deer), and zhigaag (skunk).

Fill in the missing vowels for these Ojibwe words

m _ ' _ _ n g _ n

m _ k w _

w _ _ b _ _ z

m _ z _ s _

w _ _ g _ s h

_ s _ b _ n

w _ _ w _ _ s h k _ s h _

z h _ g _ _ g



SKUNKzhigaag

LENGTH: 1½ to 2½ inches

WIDTH: 1 to 1¾ inches

CHARACTERISTICS: Five toes; long claws appear as dots in front of toe prints

FOXwaagosh

LENGTH: 1½ to 2½ inches, depending on species and size

WIDTH: 1 to 2 inches, depending on species and size

CHARACTERISTICS: Four toes; retractable claws may or may not be present

WOLFma'iingan

LENGTH: 2 inches

WIDTH: 3¾ inches

CHARACTERISTICS: Four toes; claw marks present

WILD TURKEYmizise

LENGTH: 6 to 7 inches (male), 4½ to 5 inches (female)

CHARACTERISTICS: Three toes

DEERwaawaashkeshi

LENGTH: 2 to 4 inches, depending on age and gender

CHARACTERISTICS: Splayed hooves; sides of track are convex; dew claws may show up below hooves.

RACCOONesiban

LENGTH: 2 to 3 inches (front), 3 to 4 inches (hind)

CHARACTERISTICS: Hand-shaped print; five toes

BEARmakwa

LENGTH: 3¾ to 8 inches

WIDTH: 3¾ to 6 inches

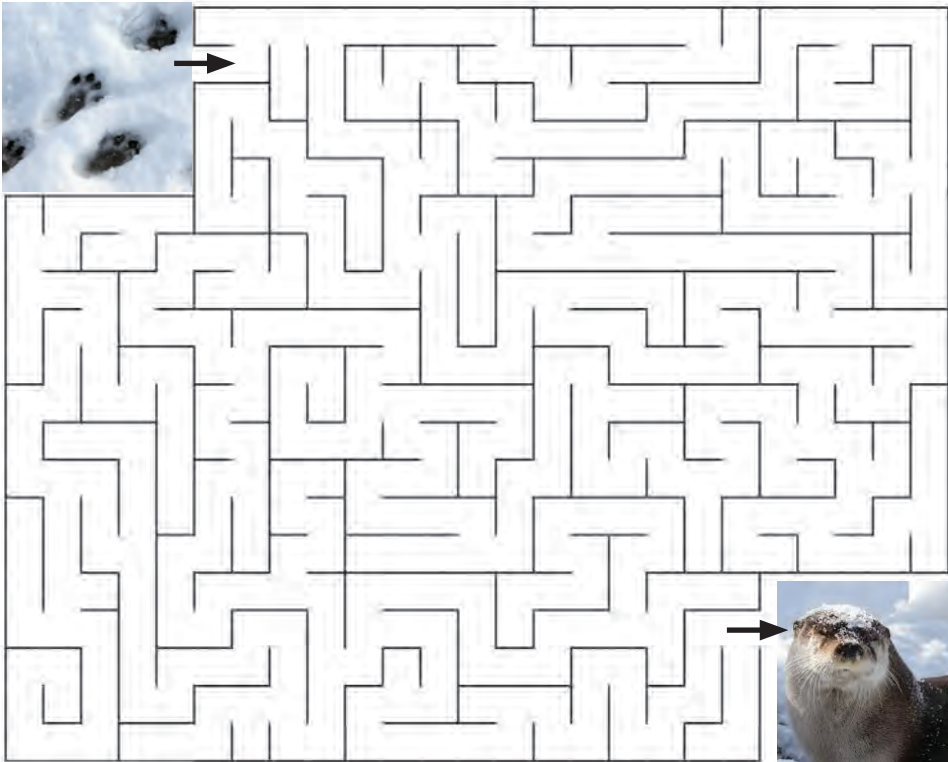
CHARACTERISTICS: Five toes; claws shown on front and hind prints

RABBITwaabooz

LENGTH: 1¼ to 6 inches (hind), 1 to 3 inches (front)

CHARACTERISTICS: Front feet hit at diagonal; front tracks lay behind hind tracks due to gallop stride

Complete the maze to see who made these tracks.



Did you guess an otter (nigig)?

ID cards reprinted from hobbyfarms.com/wp-content/uploads/AnimalTrack-final1.pdf