



C. CALDWELL / 85

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Who lives in Yukon?

1. Mosquitoes may be annoying to humans but they are a really important food for birds, bats, frogs, and other insects.
2. Mountain Goat - Look way up on the cliffs in southern Yukon to see these agile climbers.
3. Grizzly Bears are found all over Yukon and can have black, brown or even silver-blond fur. They love eating fish and berries.

4. Ravens live in Yukon year-round and are the official territorial bird. They are known as the "Tricksters" or the "Creator" in First Nation culture.
5. Fox - You can see Red and Arctic foxes in Yukon. Red Foxes can also have black fur or even a mix of red and black called "Cross".
6. Caribou - There are both Woodland and Barren-ground caribou in Yukon. Both male and female caribou have antlers.

7. Wolverines are found all over Yukon but are rarely seen. They are renowned for their strength and fearlessness.
8. Elk look like large deer and have big cream-coloured rumps. They were first brought to Yukon in the 1950s.
9. Moose are the largest members of the deer family. Like this one, they feed on plants in ponds and rivers. There are twice as many moose as humans in Yukon.

10. Arctic Ground Squirrels are usually seen standing along the road and in meadows. They build networks of tunnels under the sandy soil.

11. Fireweed is the official territorial flower of Yukon. It is the first thing to grow after a forest fire and colours the hills pink in the summer.

12. Fish are an important food for many animals. Did you know that a Lake Trout can live to be 50 years old?

13. Bald Eagles perch majestically beside lakes and rivers in Yukon. They eat animals such as squirrels and fish.

14. Subalpine Fir is the official territorial tree of Yukon. Its soft needles stay green all year, even when under deep snow.

15. Thinhorn Sheep - You can see Dall's, Stone's, and Fannin's sheep in Yukon - all different colours. They are often seen high on mountain cliffs and in meadows.

16. Muskrats look like small beavers with skinny tails. In winter they push up pockets of ice on ponds so they can come up to breathe.

17. Ptarmigan - In winter, their feathers molt to white so they are camouflaged in the snow. Their feathered feet act like snowshoes.

18. Snowshoe Hares also change to white in winter. Unlike rabbits, hare babies are born with fur and their eyes open.

19. Canada Lynx is the only wild cat that lives north of the Arctic Circle. They have large paws like snowshoes so they can walk on top of the snow.

20. Beavers are the largest rodents in Yukon. They chop down trees with their teeth and drag them to the water to build lodges and dams, and store for the winter.

21. Gray Wolf - Wolves are very shy and avoid humans. They hide in the forest so you can't see them, but they may answer if you howl.

22. Red Squirrels will often chatter at you as you walk in the woods. They store lots of pine cones in big piles called "middens" so they have food in the winter.

23. Balsam Poplar has smooth, green bark that cracks when it gets older. In the spring, its buds have a unique smell that announces, "Spring is here!"

24. Great Horned Owl - You are much more likely to hear an owl hooting than to see one. You can sometimes see them hunting in the forest in the twilight darkness of Yukon summer nights.

25. Black Bears are much more common than Grizzly Bears. They are smaller and not always black. They can be brown or even blond in colour. They mainly eat berries and roots.

26. Pine Martens are quick hunters and live in forests with large trees where they catch their favourite food: Red-backed Voles.

