

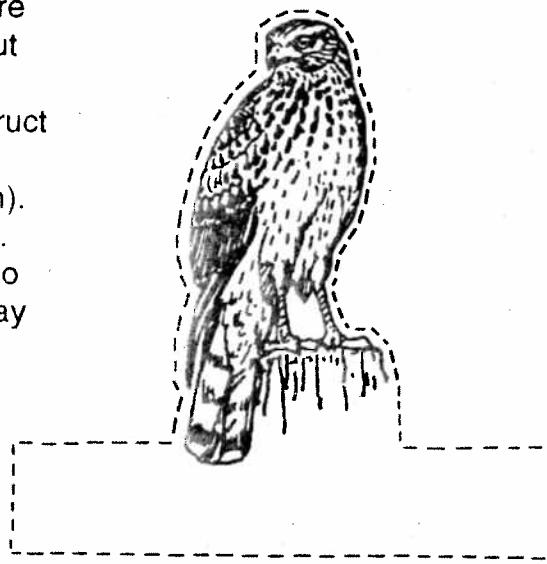
Boreal Forest Component Cards

(Intermediate/Junior High Level)

The following pages contain over 130 illustrations of some of the most common and easily recognized trees, shrubs, herbs, fungi, insects, birds, mammals, and other components of the NWT's boreal forest. Also included are other probably less known, groups of invertebrates and microscopic organisms. Each illustration is accompanied by text describing the component's traits, habitat, foods, predators, and interesting facts or "treevia."

How To Use the Boreal Forest Component Cards

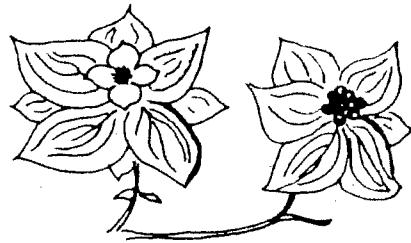
- Copy the cards and put them in a binder. Use them for **handy reference** information on forest plants and animals--what they look like; what they eat; what habitat they occur in; how they are important to people. Students can try to match specimens in the forest with cards in the reference binder.
- Cut up and laminate them for use in many of the specific **activities** in NWT's Focus on Forests manual, such as: *Who am I?, Forest Food Webs, Tree Snacks, Minibeasts in the Forest, Nature's Recycling Crew*.
- Photocopy the illustrations and cut them out. Have students colour the photocopies to make **plant or wildlife badges**.
- Enlarge the illustrations with a photocopier and use them for **work-sheets, displays, life-size cutouts** or anything else you may invent.
- Photocopy the illustrations and students can colour them, cut them out and make a **forest diorama in a box** (see *Forest Food Webs* in the manual).
- Make **finger puppets**. Copy enough cards so there is one for each student. (If you reduce them to about 70% of their size with a photocopier, they will be a good size for making puppets): Students can construct a finger puppet by drawing an outline around their organism with a wide strip at the base (see diagram). Students can then colour their puppet and cut it out. They can have a partner tape the ends of the strip to fit their finger. Groups of students can do a short play for the rest of the class. Encourage students to be dramatic and creative, but also have them include some of the information about their puppet's home, food, predators and other interesting facts.



Games to Play!

- Photocopy, cut up and laminate the cards to use as **flashcards for card games or concentration games**. Here are a few game ideas:

Forest Fish - The object of this game is to collect the greatest number of Boreal Forest Component Cards. Students will learn to visually identify some of the organisms in NWT's boreal forest.



Materials: Boreal Forest Component Cards (choose 4 pages of the cards and make 4 photocopies of each page for each group).

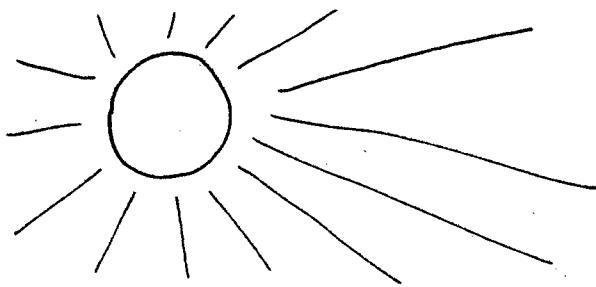
Directions:

1. Divide students into groups of two to four. Each of them should be dealt four cards. The rest of the cards are placed in a pile in the centre of the group.
2. The player on the left of the dealer begins by asking one of the other players if s/he has a particular card (e.g. do you have any carrion beetles?).
3. If the answer is 'yes,' the first player collects the cards from the second player, puts the pair face down, takes a card from the pile, and then takes another turn. If the answer is 'no,' the second player replies, 'go fish' and it becomes the next person's turn.
4. The game continues until all the cards in the middle are taken. The winner is the student with the greatest number of pairs.

Variation: You can use the tree and shrub cards and have students ask for cards by the scientific name, (e.g. Do you have any *Pinus banksiana*?). This will help the students become accustomed to hearing and pronouncing scientific names. This fits well with the Grade 5 Science Unit, 5.2.6 (each organism has scientific names which are the same all over the world).

Forest Concentration - Photocopy five or six pages of the Boreal Forest Component Cards. Cut out the cards, separating the illustrations from the name and information about the forest component. All cards are laid face down. Students alternate turning two cards over at a time. When a match is made (card with the correct picture) the student keeps the pair.

Food Chain Rummy - This game has the same rules as rummy, but students must make a food chain of three or four cards - depending on the level of the students - to lay down. (Example: lichen, caribou, and wolf--the wolf eats the caribou, and the caribou eats the lichen). When all the cards are gone, the student with the most sets wins.



Sun

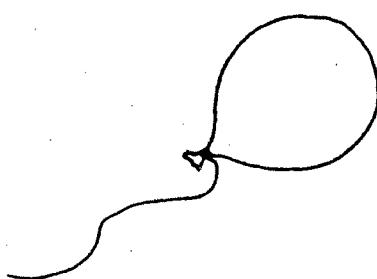
Non-Living

TRAITS: The sun is a yellow dwarf star - a very dense ball of gases and dust. Thermonuclear reactions in the sun release huge amounts of heat and light energy.

OCCURRENCES: The sun is located in the centre of our solar system. Light from the sun takes eight minutes to reach Earth.

VALUES: Plants and other producers capture the energy in sunlight and, through photosynthesis, store it in the form of sugar. Plants, and all other living things, use this stored sunlight energy to grow and reproduce.

TREEVIA: The sun is about 109 times the size of the earth.



Air

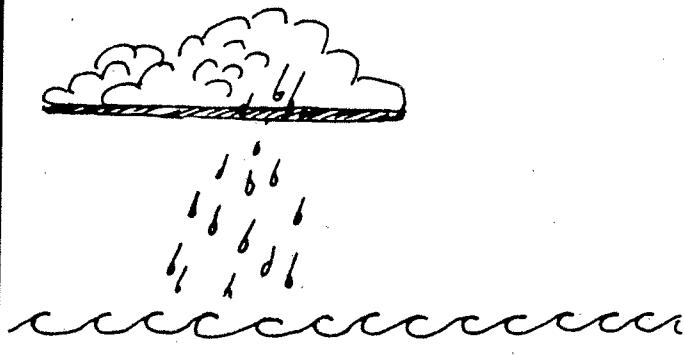
Non-Living

TRAITS: Air is made up of several gases, including: nitrogen (78%), oxygen (21%), rare gases (0.9%), carbon dioxide (0.03%).

OCCURRENCES: Air surrounds us, but we rarely notice it.

VALUES: The thin layer of air that blankets the earth makes our planet suitable for life by providing the oxygen and carbon dioxide needed by all living things.

TREEVIA: The sky above us may look endless but the earth's atmosphere is actually very thin. If the earth were the size of an apple, the atmosphere would be the same thickness as the apple skin.



Water

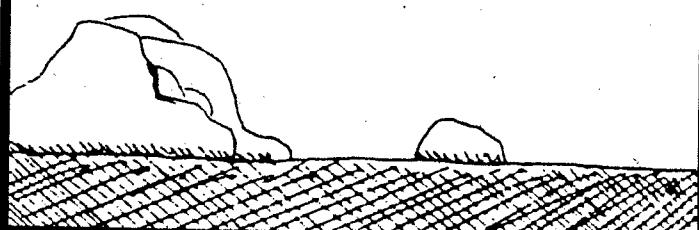
Non-Living

TRAITS: Water molecules are made up of two atoms of hydrogen and one atom of oxygen. Water is solid (ice) at temperatures below freezing (0° C), liquid above this, and gas at temperatures above boiling (100° C).

OCCURRENCE: Water occurs in the air as clouds, rain, and snow. It forms lakes, streams, rivers, and oceans. It also occurs in the soil and deep underground in the water table.

VALUES: All living things need water for most life processes. Most living things are 70% water.

TREEVIA: Water cycles continuously from clouds to rain or snow to rivers, lakes, and oceans, then back to clouds. Trees transpire or sweat water into the atmosphere.



Soil and Rocks

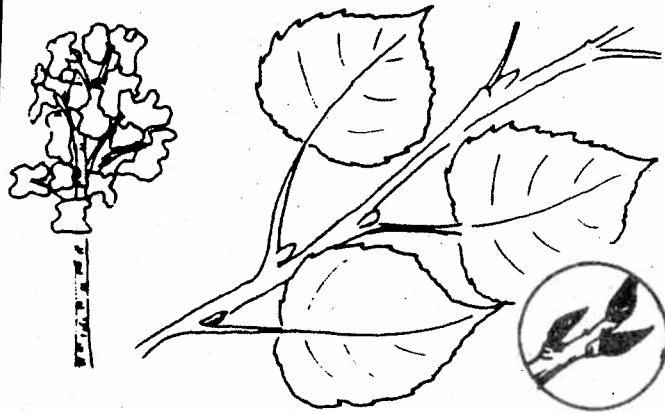
Non-Living

TRAITS: Rocks are made up of elements and compounds that form solids under most of the conditions on earth. Wind and water erosion change rocks into fine sand and clay particles, the basis of soils. Some soils are enriched by nutrients from decomposed plants, animals and other living things.

OCCURRENCE: Soil and rocks are found everywhere on earth.

VALUES: Soil contains the minerals that plants need to make food. Soil also provides plants with a place to put down their roots in order to hold themselves upright and take up water.

TREEVIA: A teaspoon of forest soil may contain 3-10 billion microscopic organisms, and hundreds of invertebrate animals.



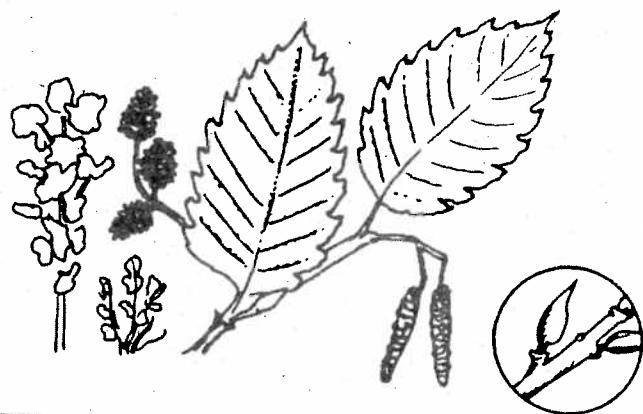
Trembling Aspen *Populus tremuloides* Plant

TRAITS: broadleaved tree; leaves are rounded with a pointed tip and small teeth along the edge; leaves have a flattened stalk causing them to flutter in the breeze; bark is smooth and greenish-white with waxy appearance, becoming rough with age; flowers form catkins which produce cottony seeds

HABITAT: grows on many soils; best in well-drained loams
FOODS: makes its own by photosynthesis

EATEN BY: beavers, caterpillars, aphids, moose, snowshoe hares, grouse, ptarmigan, small birds, porcupines

TREEVIA: Aspen is a fast-growing tree which quickly invades open areas caused by fire or logging - by sending up root suckers.



Green Alder *Alnus crispa* Plant

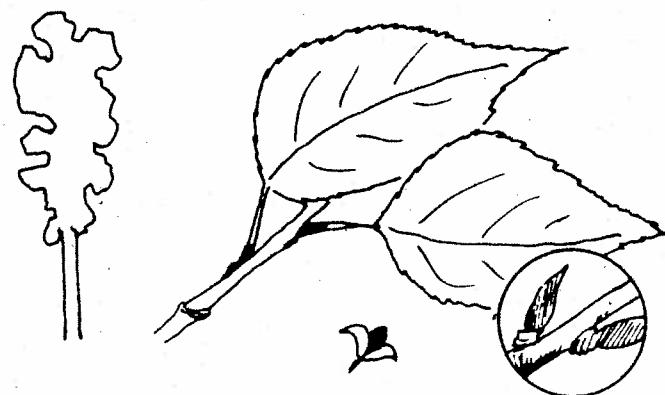
TRAITS: bushy shrub that forms dense thickets; bark is smooth, reddish-brown or grey; flowers form catkins; fruit consists of small, cone-like catkins which are green but turn brown and woody at maturity

HABITAT: grows well in low moist sites, such as along rivers; may extend along some rivers into treeless tundra

FOODS: makes its own by photosynthesis

EATEN BY: moth larvae, aphids, redpolls, leaf hoppers, true bugs

TREEVIA: Alder can be used as a fuel for smoking fish and meat.



Balsam Poplar *Populus balsamifera* Plant

TRAITS: broadleaved tree; buds are sweet-smelling and sticky; bark is smooth and greenish-brown, becoming thick and rough as it ages; flowers form drooping catkins and produce cottony seeds which are carried in the wind; can also reproduce by suckers growing up from the roots

HABITAT: moist, rich, low-lying ground such as river valleys; widely distributed tree, it grows throughout the NWT forests

FOODS: makes its own by photosynthesis

EATEN BY: caterpillars, aphids, moose, hares, grouse, ptarmigan, porcupines

TREEVIA: Poplar catkins and gum can be used to make medicines for chest pain and other health problems.



White Birch *Betula papyrifera* Plant

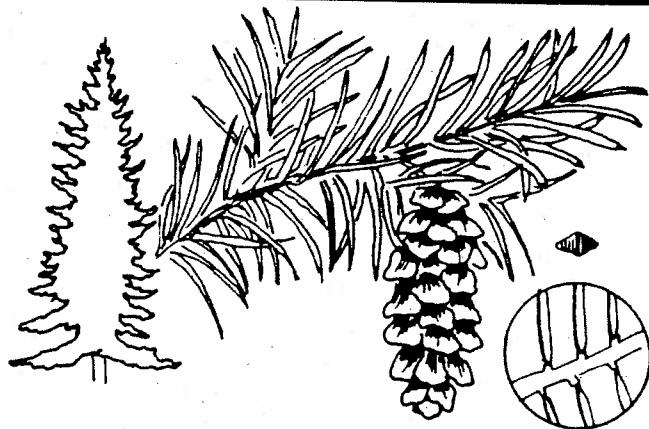
TRAITS: broadleaved tree with white, paper-like bark that peels into sheets; leaves are triangular to egg-shaped with a pointed tip and teeth along edges; flowers form hanging catkins which mature into cone-like catkins

HABITAT: grow in a variety of places, but favour well-drained sandy loams

FOODS: makes its own by photosynthesis

EATEN BY: moth larvae, aphids, moose, hares, grouse, small birds, voles & other rodents, ptarmigan

TREEVIA: Canoe birch is another name for white birch since the bark was once used by the Dene to make canoes. The bark is still used today for making decorative baskets.



White Spruce

Picea glauca

Plant

TRAITS: dense evergreen tree with a tapered trunk covered by thin scaly bark; young twigs are shiny and smooth; needles are four-sided, stiff, and prickly; 30-60 mm long cones hang down from the ends of branches

HABITAT: throughout forested area; grows best in well-drained, but moist, silty soil

FOODS: makes its own by photosynthesis

EATEN BY: spruce grouse, red squirrels, porcupines, bark beetles, spruce aphids, crossbills.

TREEVIA: Spruce is an important tree for lumber; the Dene people had a variety of uses for all parts of the white spruce, from paddles to snowshoe frames to medicine.



Black Spruce

Picea mariana

Plant

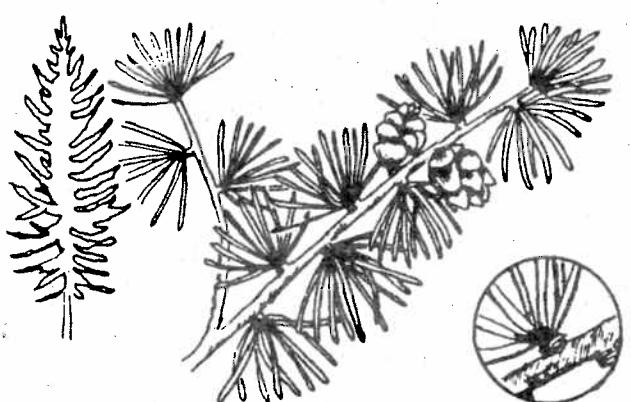
TRAITS: slow-growing evergreen with drooping, up-turned branches; young twigs are covered in short, dense hairs; needles are four-sided; egg-shaped cones are 15-30 mm long and can remain on branches for several years; older trees can also reproduce by layering - when drooping branches grow roots.

HABITAT: most widespread tree in the NWT; grows well in wet, boggy areas

FOODS: makes its own by photosynthesis

EATEN BY: red squirrels, porcupines, bark beetles, spruce aphids, beaver (starvation food only)

TREEVIA: The long fibres in the wood make it a good wood for paper-making; also a good medicine for congestion and colds.



Tamarack

Larix laricina

Plant

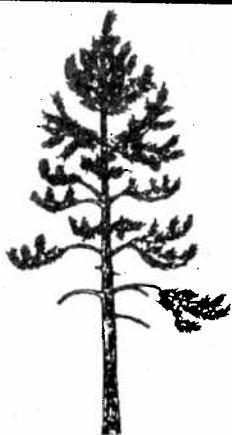
TRAITS: the only NWT conifer which loses its needles in winter; the needles are soft and flexible and grow in clusters of 10 to 20; it has small cones which grow upright on the branches

HABITAT: grows in wet places, such as sphagnum bogs

FOODS: makes its own by photosynthesis

EATEN BY: squirrels, wood-boring insects, aphids, seed-eating birds, porcupine, snowshoe hare

TREEVIA: Tannin for use in tanning leather can be extracted from tamarack bark. The spongy layer beneath the bark of a tamarack tree can be used to stop a wound from bleeding.



Jack Pine

Pinus banksiana

Plant

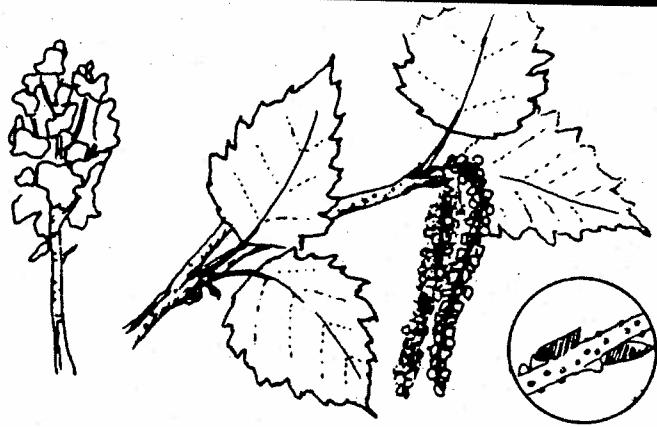
TRAITS: ragged-looking evergreen; needles grow in bundles of two; cones curve inwards and usually grow on the branch in pairs

HABITAT: grows best on sandy soils

FOODS: makes its own by photosynthesis

EATEN BY: wood-boring insects, aphids, snowshoe hare, porcupine, squirrel, spruce grouse; the bark and branches can be used as a medicine to cure a cold or chest pain

TREEVIA: Jack pine is the official tree of the NWT. Cones usually remain closed and stay on the tree until opened by the heat of a forest fire, or sometimes, by the heat of the sun.



Alaska Birch *Betula neoalaskana* Plant

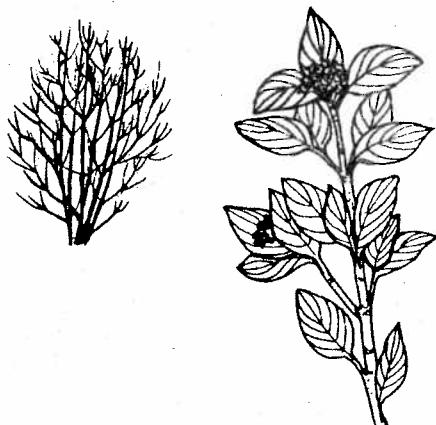
TRAITS: broadleaf tree which looks like white birch from a distance; has white paper-like bark which peels off into sheets but not as easily as the bark of white birch; leaves are almost triangle-shaped; twigs are covered with resin glands which makes them feel "bumpy"

HABITAT: forested areas of the NWT; grows in bogs and poorly drained soils

FOODS: makes its own by photosynthesis

EATEN BY: moth larvae, aphids, moose, hares, grouse, small birds, voles & other rodents, ptarmigan

TREEVIA: Birch wood is used for firewood; bark can be used for baskets or snow goggles.



Red-Osier Dogwood *Cornus stolonifera* Plant

TRAITS: shrub is 1-3 m tall and has reddish-brown bark on branches; heavily veined, oval leaves; from May to July, flat-topped clusters of greenish-white flowers form; fruit is white berry

HABITAT: moist woods and clearings along Mackenzie River Valley to Delta

FOODS: makes its own by photosynthesis

EATEN BY: moose, hares, aphids, leafhoppers

NOTES: Dogwood fruit is not edible, but the dried bark and root has been used as a remedy for colds and fever. This plant is often called "red willow" by local people.



Willow *Salix* species Plant

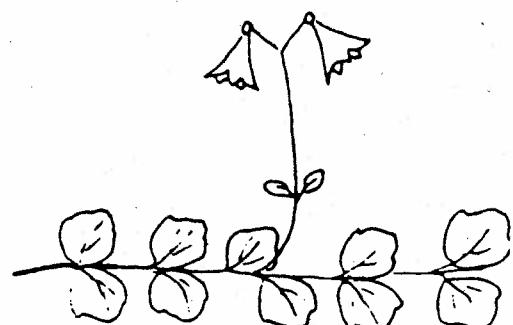
TRAITS: broadleaf tree or shrub; leaves are long, narrow and pointed at both ends; they are arranged alternately on branches; flowers form catkins which become cottony seeds

HABITAT: most willows grow along streams or in low places where soil is moist; one of few woody plants to survive on the treeless tundra

FOODS: makes its own by photosynthesis

EATEN BY: moth larvae, aphids, muskoxen, caribou, moose, hares, ptarmigan, beaver.

TREEVIA: 40 different kinds grow across the NWT. The bark contains salicylic acid which is the active ingredient in aspirin. Twigs of some willow are used to make baskets.



Twinflower *Linnaea borealis* Plant

TRAITS: a small (less than 10 cm tall), trailing evergreen plant with opposite oval leaves; leaf tips are divided into three parts; twin pink, trumpet-shaped flowers are borne on a tall stalk; the dry fruit has hooked bristles that attaches to fur or feathers of passing animals

HABITAT: open forested areas that allow light to reach the forest floor

FOODS: makes its own by photosynthesis

EATEN BY: moth larvae, leaf hoppers, true bugs, voles, sparrows, grouse

TREEVIA: The delicate, twinned flowers produce one of the most fragrant perfumes of the boreal forest.



Juniper	<i>Juniperus</i> species	Plant
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TRAITS: low-trailing evergreen shrub with scale or needle-like leaves; fruit is a blue-black juniper berry or cone

HABITAT: dry, rocky or sandy places throughout forests of the NWT and extending into the tundra

FOODS: makes its own by photosynthesis.

EATEN BY: squirrels

TREEVIA: Juniper branches and berries are used in traditional medicine to help colds, heart trouble and even tuberculosis. The branches can be burned to purify the house - it gives off a cleansing gas against infectious fungi.



Fireweed	<i>Epilobium</i> species	Plant
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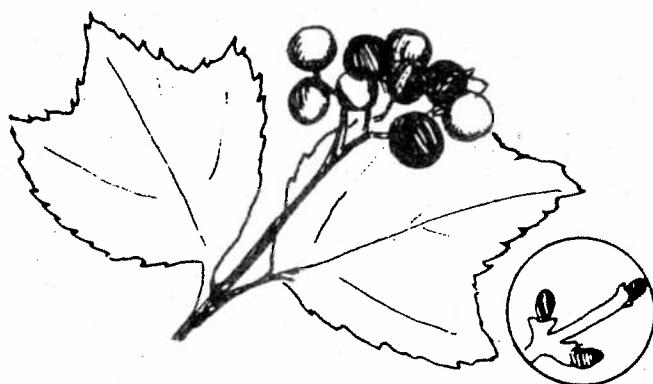
TRAITS: tall plant with long narrow leaves; has many showy rose-pink flowers at top of stem; flowers July to September; seeds are covered in fluffy hair so they are carried easily by the wind

HABITAT: grows throughout the forested area of the NWT; one of first plants to grow on disturbed soils and open areas, such as roadsides, along rivers and in burnt areas

FOODS: makes its own by photosynthesis.

EATEN BY: moth larvae, aphids, bugs, leafhoppers, redpolls, sparrows, moose, hares, bears, humans

TREEVIA: Fireweed makes good medicine to help a sore stomach, or to speed up the delivery of a baby.



High-bush Cranberry	<i>Viburnum edule</i>	Plant
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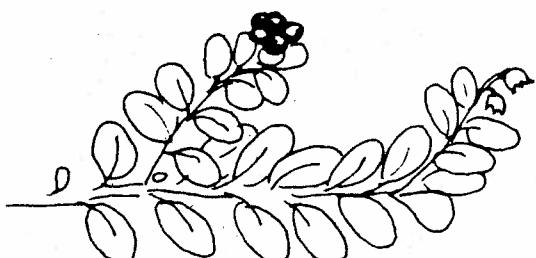
TRAITS: shrub which grows to 2 m tall; 3-lobed leaves grow in pairs along stem; white flowers grow in clusters at ends of twigs along stem; bright red berries

HABITAT: cold, damp woods and open woodland margin of lakes and rivers south of the treeline

FOODS: makes its own by photosynthesis.

EATEN BY: caterpillars, bugs, leafhoppers, sparrows, grouse, voles, moose, hares, bears, humans

TREEVIA: Cranberries are tart but edible, becoming sweeter after a frost.



Low-bush Cranberry	<i>Vaccinium vitis-idaea</i>	Plant
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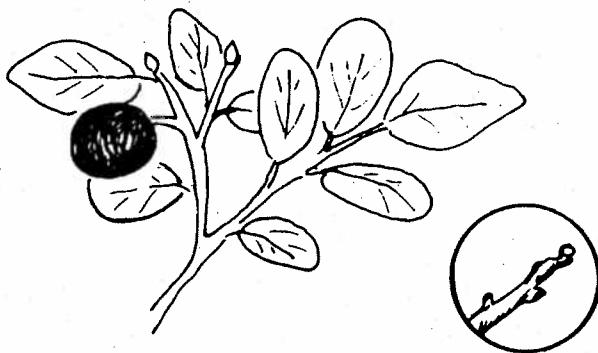
TRAITS: low, evergreen, mat-forming shrub; small, thick, oval, leathery leaves; white or pink bell-shaped flowers; bright red berries

HABITAT: open, acid, turfy and boggy places; throughout the mainland of the NWT

FOODS: makes its own by photosynthesis.

EATEN BY: caterpillars, aphids, bugs, grouse, pine grosbeaks, thrushes, voles and other rodents, moose, bears, humans.

TREEVIA: Berries can be chewed or boiled to make a medicine for colds and coughing. Other names include: mountain cranberry and lingonberry.



Blueberry *Vaccinium uliginosum* Plant

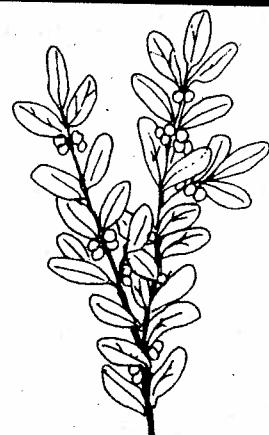
TRAITS: deciduous shrub up to 50 cm tall; small, oval leaves with smooth edges; pink bell-like flowers; blue-black berry

HABITAT: acid soil in dry or moist areas; throughout the forested area of the NWT and extending into the tundra

FOODS: makes its own by photosynthesis.

EATEN BY: caterpillars, aphids, jays, thrushes, voles, bears, humans

TREEVIA: Blueberries are sweet and edible. It is also called bilberry and bog huckleberry.



Soapberry *Shepherdia canadensis* Plant

TRAITS: shrub that may reach 3 m in height; oval leaves are smooth and green on top and undersides have whitish hairs and rusty scales; bright, red shiny berries that feel soapy

HABITAT: open woods, gravel soil south of treeline

FOODS: makes its own by photosynthesis.

EATEN BY: bears, grouse, aphids, caterpillars, humans

NOTES: The berries can be whipped up to make a frothy foam which is edible, but bitter without sugar. Also called buffaloberry.



Labrador Tea *Ledum species* Plant

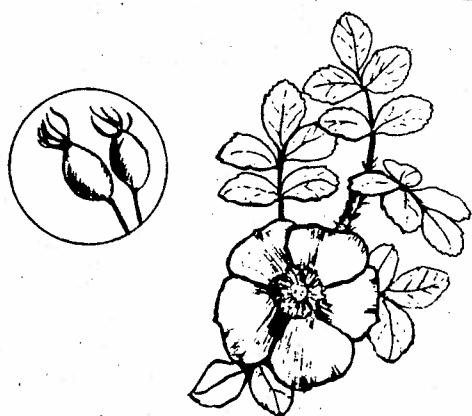
TRAITS: shrub about 50 cm high; aromatic; leaves evergreen, thick, with edges rolled under and rusty-woolly underneath; numerous white flowers form showy clusters

HABITAT: poorly drained soils, bogs, muskeg, above and below the treeline in the NWT

FOODS: makes its own by photosynthesis.

EATEN BY: moth larvae, aphids, snowshoe hares, humans

TREEVIA: A tea can be made from the leaves or flower of this plant and used to cure heartburn, tuberculosis, colds and arthritis.



Wild Rose *Rosa species* Plant

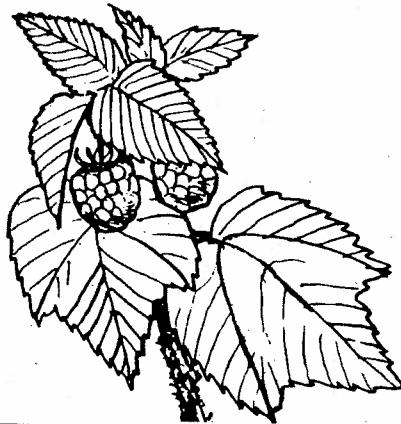
TRAITS: small shrub about 1 m high with prickly stem; showy fragrant flowers with 5 pink petals and golden ring of stamens; fruit, or hip, is red to orange and the size of a cherry

HABITAT: river banks, road sides, clearings and burns throughout the forested area of the NWT

FOODS: makes its own by photosynthesis.

EATEN BY: moth larvae, aphids, pine grosbeaks, grouse, thrushes, humans

TREEVIA: Rose hips are rich in vitamin C and are a good emergency food. A herb juice can be made from wild rose to treat sore eyes and other ailments like a stomach ache.



Raspberry *Rubus strigosus* Plant

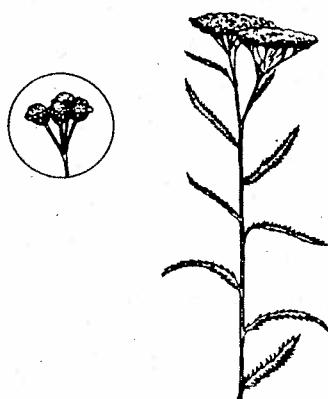
TRAITS: shrub with bristly stem; 3-5 leaflets; white flowers; fruit is red and juicy when ripe

HABITAT: often found growing on rock outcrops in the boreal forest

FOODS: makes its own by photosynthesis.

EATEN BY: aphids, bugs, leafhoppers, grouse, jays, thrushes, sparrows, voles, moose, bears, humans

TREEVIA: Raspberries are edible and are a good source of vitamins B and C. A tea can be made with fresh or dried leaves.



Yarrow *Achillea species* Plant

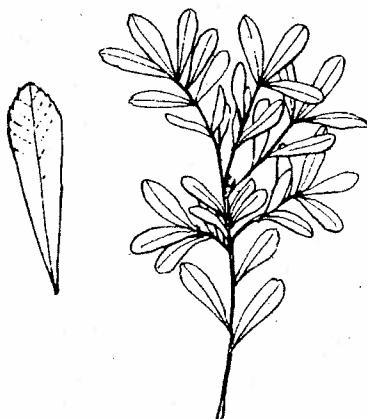
TRAITS: strong-smelling herb; 50 to 100 cm high; white umbrella-like flowers that bloom until late summer; leaves either doubly compound, having a ferny appearance, or long and toothed

HABITAT: meadows, sandy places, roadsides, rocky lake shores south of the treeline

FOODS: makes its own by photosynthesis.

EATEN BY: unknown

TREEVIA: A medicinal tea can be made from yarrow flowers. The flowers can also be sniffed to stop a nose bleed. Rubbing clothes with yarrow or burning the stalks will repel mosquitoes.



Sweet Gale *Myrica gale* Plant

TRAITS: shrub about 1 m high; leaves are greyish-green, toothed only at tip and produce a strong aroma

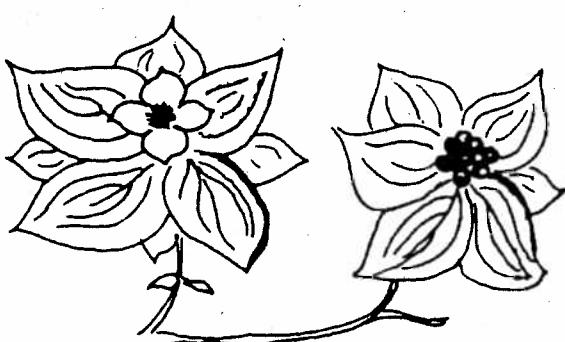
HABITAT: wet areas, muskeg and bogs south of treeline

FOODS: makes its own by photosynthesis

EATEN BY: leafhoppers, aphids, humans

TREEVIA: A tea can be made from sweet gale leaves.

Sweet gale is also a component of yellow to green dyes. The plant can also be used to treat skin rashes and sores.



Bunchberry *Cornus canadensis* Plant

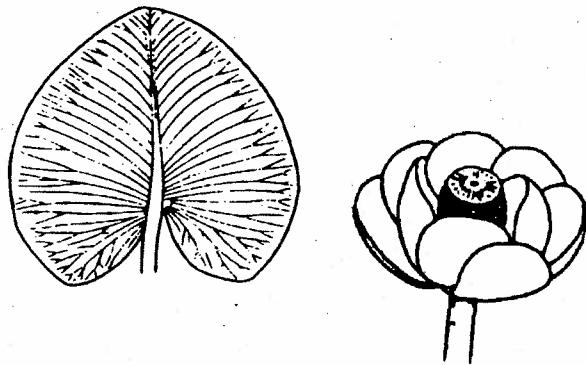
TRAITS: low, trailing evergreen plant; stems 8-15 cm tall; 4-6 oval-shaped veined leaves; has 4 cream-coloured, petal-like leaves; clusters of red berries appear in late summer

HABITAT: grows best in mature boreal forests

FOODS: makes its own by photosynthesis.

EATEN BY: aphids, moth larvae, tree bugs, leafhoppers, thrushes, sparrows, red squirrels, voles, humans

TREEVIA: Bunchberries are high in pectin, which helps to thicken jams or berry cakes.



Yellow Pond Lily *Nuphar variegatum* Plant

TRAITS: large, heart-shaped leaves which float on the water and are attached to the root by a long stalk; flower has up to 6 bright yellow, petal-like sepals

HABITAT: shallow, still waters in ponds and rivers in forested part of the NWT; south of Great Bear Lake

FOODS: makes its own by photosynthesis.

EATEN BY: beavers, moose, muskrats

TREEVIA: Pond lily is also called spatterdock or cow lily. The seeds are edible, they can be cooked on the fire to make a "wilderness popcorn".



Horsetails *Equisetum* species Plant

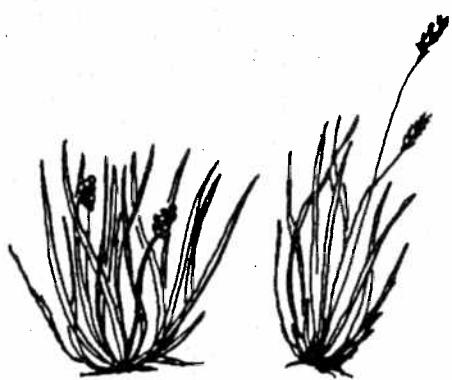
TRAITS: ground cover plant with jointed, hollow stems that grow from an underground rhizome; reproduce by spores on a cone-like structure at tops of some stems

HABITAT: wet or moist soils; different species found throughout the NWT

FOODS: makes its own by photosynthesis.

EATEN BY: bears, grouse, moose

TREEVIA: Some members of this group are called scouring rush because their stems can be used to clean pots when camping.



Sedges family *Cyperaceae* Plant

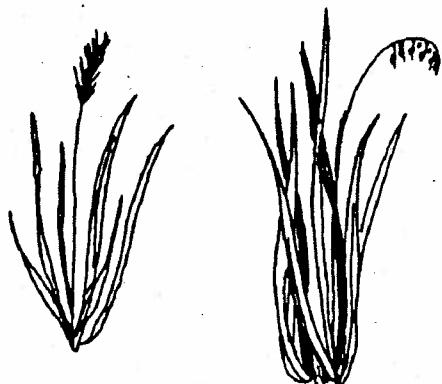
TRAITS: grass-like herbs with long, narrow leaves and solid, usually triangular stems; 2-100 cm high; tiny flowers grow in clusters

HABITAT: forest bogs, moist meadows, tundra

FOODS: make their own by photosynthesis.

EATEN BY: moose, caribou, wood bison, voles, geese, bears, hares

TREEVIA: Sedges look quite a bit like rushes, but remember: "sedges have edges and rushes are round."



Grasses family *Poaceae* Plant

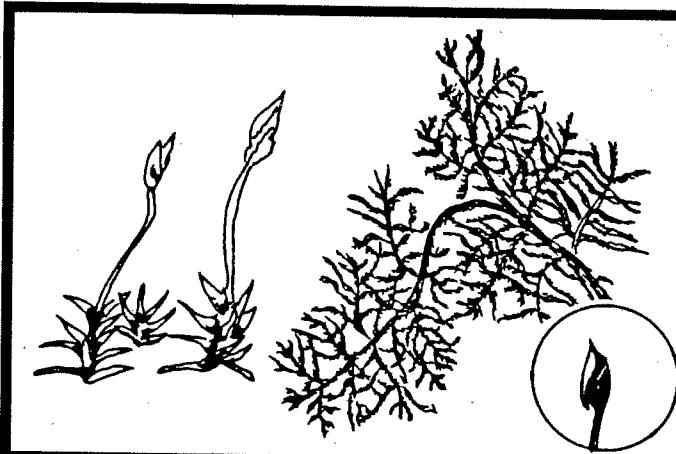
TRAITS: herbs with long, narrow leaves and hollow stems; flowers are tiny

HABITAT: dry to moist forests, meadows and wetlands

FOOD: make their own by photosynthesis.

EATEN BY: bears, caribou, wood bison, ducks, humans, geese

TREEVIA: People world-wide depend on grasses. They supply sugar from sugarcane and cereal from grains such as wheat, barley, oats, corn and rice. Grasses also supply many cultures with materials for weaving.



Mosses & Liverworts *Bryophytes* Plant

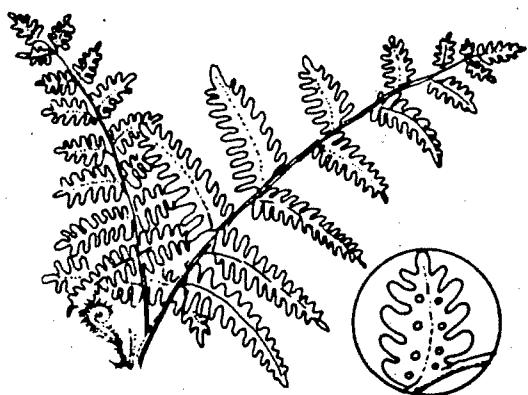
TRAITS: small ground cover plants, either flat and scale-like or with stems and leaves; they do not have true roots or tubes in their stems for moving food and water; they reproduce by spores that are borne in cap-like structures, or capsules, at the tips of long stalks

HABITAT: soil, tree branches, and rocks in forested areas, and other moist habitats

FOODS: makes its own by photosynthesis.

EATEN BY: springtails, mites

TREEVIA: Spagnum moss was used by Dene people for bedding and baby diapers. When dry, it can absorb large amounts of liquids.



Ferns *family Polypodiaceae* Plant

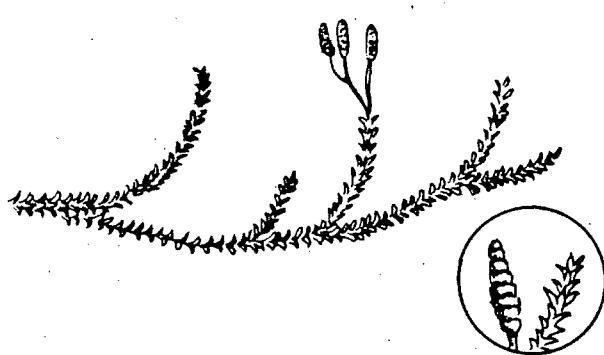
TRAITS: plants with stems, leaves, and roots; most have stems that grow underground; leaves, called fronds, are usually divided into very fine parts; reproduce by spores borne on the undersides of the leaves or on special fronds

HABITAT: moist habitats; most species occur in forests and on the tundra of the NWT

FOODS: makes its own by photosynthesis.

EATEN BY: grouse, hares, springtails

TREEVIA: Some types of ferns can be cooked and eaten. The fiddleheads of ostrich ferns are very good to eat.



Club Mosses *Lycopodium species* Plant

TRAITS: ground cover plant; moss-like herb; stems may grow upward or along the ground; tiny, one-veined leaves grow in pairs, or spirals around the stem; the spores are usually found in structures that look like cones on the ends of the stalks

HABITAT: moist to dry forests and edges of bogs

FOODS: makes its own by photosynthesis.

EATEN BY: springtails, mites

TREEVIA: Some club mosses look like tiny coniferous trees.



Wood Frog *Rana sylvatica* Animal

TRAITS: small amphibian (about 7 cm) with moist brown or grey skin; long hind legs, short forelegs, and a large mouth; dark mask over the eyes

HABITAT: eggs and larvae live only in water; adults inhabit moist areas such as ponds, bogs, marshes, throughout forested areas and adjacent tundra.

FOODS: adults eat insects including flies, bugs, dragonflies; larvae feed on algae and small animals

EATEN BY: diving beetles, pike, mink, grebes, loons

TREEVIA: The wood frog is active even at temperatures slightly above freezing because it has chemicals similar to antifreeze in its blood.



Shrew *Sorex* species Animal

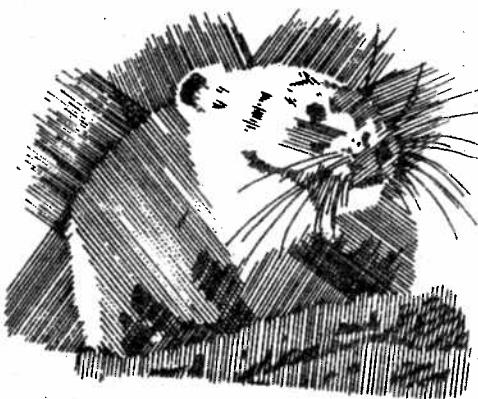
TRAITS: small mammal with long, pointed nose, sharp teeth, short legs, short velvety fur, fairly long tail, and tiny black bead-like eyes

HABITAT: forests, wetlands, and tundra

FOODS: eats insects such as beetles and fly larvae, also worms, spiders and the eggs and young of small ground-nesting birds

EATEN BY: owls, ermine, marten, foxes, falcons

TREEVIA: Shrews are balls of nervous energy. They are constantly active, either hunting, grooming or building a nest. Four different kinds of shrews live in the NWT.



Voles & Lemmings family Muridae Animal

TRAITS: small mouse-like mammals with rounded nose, short tail and legs and long front teeth for gnawing

HABITAT: forest, wetlands, tundra

FOODS: grasses, sedges, seeds, roots, berries, mushrooms

EATEN BY: important prey species for a variety of carnivorous animals: hawks, owls, gulls, foxes, marten, mink, ermine, black bears

TREEVIA: This group of rodents help scatter seeds of plants and spores of fungi. There are about five different kinds of voles and three species of lemmings that live in the NWT.



Deer Mouse *Peromyscus maniculatus* Animal

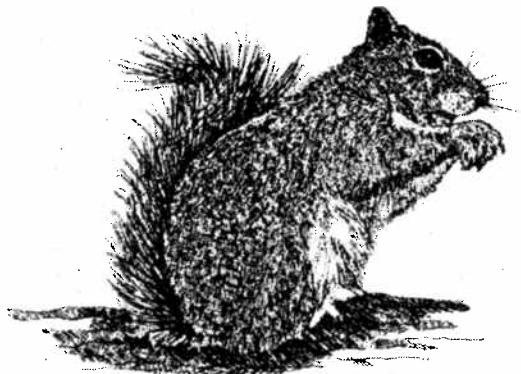
TRAITS: small mammal with fairly long tail and large beady eyes; gets its name from its coloration which is similar to a deer - light brown above and white underneath

HABITAT: likes dry habitats; lives in most parts of the NWT below the treeline

FOODS: mostly seeds but also: mushrooms, berries, insects, caterpillars, spiders.

EATEN BY: owls, foxes, and ermines

TREEVIA: Deer mouse nests are balls of grass with a hole in the centre. The deer mouse is an important link in many food chains.



Red Squirrel *Tamiasciurus hudsonicus* Animal

TRAITS: lively tree-living rodent with bushy tail; in summer, coat is brownish-white; in winter it is brighter and more reddish

HABITAT: coniferous forests; throughout the NWT below the treeline

FOODS: mainly seeds of spruce and other conifers; sometimes mushrooms and bird's eggs and young

EATEN BY: hawks, owls, marten, fishers, lynx, ermine, wolves

TREEVIA: This squirrel cuts cones off the tops of conifers and caches them for winter. It makes its home in tree cavities, leafy



Northern Flying Squirrel *Glaucomys sabrinus* Animal

TRAITS: bushy tail; large eyes; brown above and grey below; folds of skin along its sides between the front and back legs which allows the squirrel to glide.

HABITAT: boreal forests; along Mackenzie River valley

FOODS: lichens, buds, seeds, leaves, fruits, nuts, mushrooms; also eggs of insects and birds.

EATEN BY: owls, marten

TREEVIA: This squirrel is nocturnal - gathers food at night and very sociable. It lives in tree cavities and nests of twigs.



Little Brown Bat *Myotis lucifugus* Animal

TRAITS: small mammal with a layer of skin stretched between its long fingers of the hand to form wings; long, silky brown fur on body; small eyes; large ears; weighs about 8 grams

HABITAT: forested areas with caves; in the NWT, west of Slave River and Great Slave Lake

FOODS: flies, mosquitoes, moths, beetles

EATEN BY: owls

TREEVIA: Bats seek roosts for the day such as caves, hollow trees and attics. They hibernate in caves during winter, lowering their body temperatures to that of the environment.



Snowshoe Hare *Lepus americanus* Animal

TRAITS: mammal with long front teeth, long ears, and a short tail; its large hind feet are padded with thick stiff hairs which give its common name; hare populations follow a 10-year cycle

HABITAT: needs deciduous forests for food and coniferous trees for shelter; lives south of the treeline

FOODS: grasses, flowers, buds, twigs and bark of birch, willow, aspen, spruce

EATEN BY: owls, hawks, red fox, wolf, lynx, humans

TREEVIA: Hares are usually called rabbits by local people. Another name, the varying hare, refers to its brown summer fur which turns white during the winter.



Porcupine	<i>Erethizon dorsatum</i>	Animal
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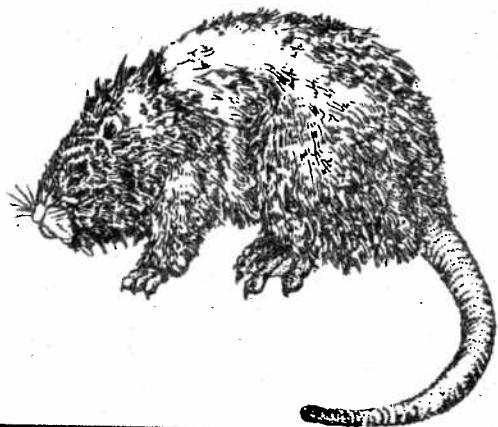
TRAITS: sluggish rodent; back and tail are covered with quills; large front teeth for gnawing

HABITAT: forested areas that include large, hollow trees or caves it can use for its den; they live below the treeline

FOODS: green vegetation in summer, inner bark of trees in winter; chew bones & antlers because of high mineral content

EATEN BY: in spite of its defences, wolverines, fishers and lynx know how to kill a porcupine without getting full of quills

TREEVIA: Porcupines have about 30,000 quills which can be raised in defence. These quills are soaked and dyed and used to decorate birch baskets.



Muskrat	<i>Ondatra zibethicus</i>	Animal
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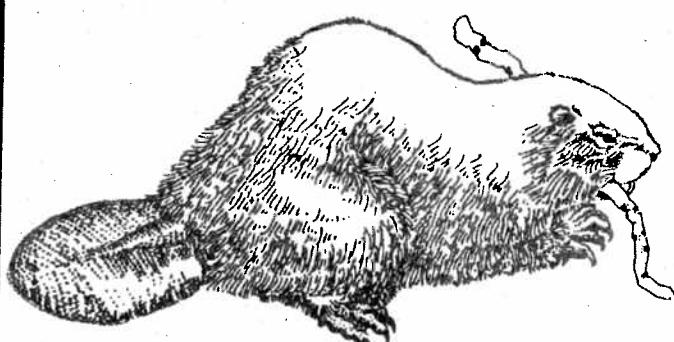
TRAITS: large, aquatic brown rodent with a long scaly tail; has partially webbed hind feet; lips close behind the incisors allowing the muskrat to gnaw underwater without getting water in its mouth

HABITAT: shallow water bodies; in the NWT, occurs below the treeline

FOODS: water lilies, bulrushes; sometimes mussels, frogs & fish

EATEN BY: owls, eagles, coyotes, mink, pike, humans

TREEVIA: Muskrats are an important NWT furbearer. In winter they build push-ups, or domes, of frozen plants covering a hole in ice where they feed; muskrat meat is very nutritional.



Beaver	<i>Castor canadensis</i>	Animal
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TRAITS: large rodent with webbed feet, a long, flat tail and long front incisors

HABITAT: slow moving waters in forested regions; live below the treeline

FOODS: mainly trembling aspen, also willow, birch and balsam poplar; also aquatic plants such as water-lilies and cat tails

EATEN BY: wolves, lynx, wolverines, otters, bears, humans

TREEVIA: The beaver is valued by the Dene people for its gift of intelligence



Ermine	<i>Mustela erminea</i>	Animal
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TRAITS: small ferocious carnivore with a slender body; in summer, underside is creamy white and the back and sides are chocolate brown; in winter, all white except black tip of tail; anal scent glands produce a musky odour

HABITAT: lives in a wide range of habitats throughout the NWT; boreal forest, tundra, mountains; stay close to cover of rocks and logs

FOODS: voles, mice, shrews, hares, birds, squirrels

EATEN BY: foxes, owls, hawks, marten, wolverines, coyotes

TREEVIA: Ermine is harvested for its fur. It is also called the short-tailed weasel.

**Wolverine***Gulo gulo*

Animal

TRAITS: solitary member of the weasel family about the size of a bear cub; stout, muscular body; short, bushy tail; large, bear-like claws suitable for climbing; dark brown fur with a buff coloured stripe along each side

HABITAT: forest and tundra; throughout most of the NWT, but less abundant in the forests

FOODS: berries, mice, arctic ground squirrels, bird's eggs, fish, calves of moose and caribou, dead animals

EATEN BY: rarely by wolves

TREEVIA: Wolverine fur is good for parka hoods because it does not frost up. This animal is also known as the stealer because it raids food caches and steals bait from traps.

**Lynx***Lynx canadensis*

Animal

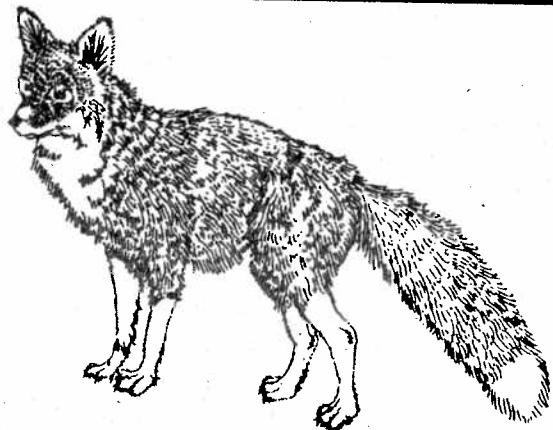
TRAITS: large cat with a short body, long legs, very large padded feet and a stubby tail; its long, thick fur is light brown and grey in colour; ears are tipped with long, black hairs

HABITAT: dense boreal forest; may hunt short distances beyond the treeline of the NWT

FOODS: chiefly snowshoe hare, but also ducks, ptarmigan, voles, and sometimes moose or caribou

EATEN BY: large owls and eagles will prey on young

TREEVIA: Lynx is an important fur bearer in the NWT. Lynx populations rise and fall in cycles of about 10 years (as does the snowshoe hare, its main food supply).

**Red Fox***Vulpes vulpes*

Animal

TRAITS: looks like a slender, small dog with a pointed face, long fur and a bushy tail; there are three colour phases: red is the most common with red-brown fur; the cross fox has more black hairs across its shoulders and on its back forming a cross; and the silver fox is black with white frosting on the guard hairs

HABITAT: semi-open country-around lakes and rivers, in forested areas as well as tundra; lives throughout most of the mainland of the NWT and some Arctic Islands

FOODS: voles, lemmings, muskrats, squirrels, eggs, birds, hares, insects, berries, dead animals

EATEN BY: coyotes, lynx, wolves, wolverine and bears

TREEVIA: Red fox fur is used for crafts and for clothing trim.

**Mink***Mustela vison*

Animal

TRAITS: mammal with a long, slender body covered in thick, dark brown fur with white under the throat and on chest; short legs; long neck; pointed face; long tail

HABITATS: streams, lakes and marshes in the forested areas of the NWT

FOODS: voles, muskrats, fish, eggs and young of ducks, geese, and shorebirds, frogs, aquatic insects

EATEN BY: owls, lynx, wolves, foxes, hawks, coyotes

TREEVIA: Mink is trapped for its fur..

**Wolf***Canis lupus***Animal**

TRAITS: looks like a large, lanky husky dog; has a long, straight, bushy, black-tipped tail; most common colour is gray, but it can vary from white to black, with white wolves living in the tundra

HABITAT: forests, tundra, plains, mountains throughout NWT
FOODS: caribou, moose, bison, Dall's sheep, muskoxen, small mammals

EATEN BY: no natural predators

TREEVIA: Wolves usually hunt in packs since prey is often larger and faster. Wolf fur is valued for clothing - the long hair is good around the face as trim to break the wind.

**Marten***Martes americana***Animal**

TRAITS: tree-dwelling member of the weasel family with a slender body, short limbs and claws suited for climbing; it has a long bushy tail, broad head, relatively large ears and abdominal scent glands; its colour varies from light to dark brown

HABITAT: mature coniferous forests

FOODS: voles, mice, squirrels, hares, birds, berries

EATEN BY: little natural predation, but it is reported to be preyed upon by lynx, owls, eagles, and coyotes

TREEVIA: Marten is trapped for its fur in the NWT. This animal tunnels under the snow in winter to find prey such as voles and mice.

**River Otter***Lutra canadensis***Animal**

TRAITS: mammal with a long and streamlined body, short legs and a long tail; its head is flattened with small ears and its toes are webbed; the fur is thick, shiny and dark brown in colour

HABITAT: the otter is amphibious and lives on the shores of deep, clear waters such as lakes, rivers, marshes and ocean bays; mainly south of the treeline in the NWT.

FOODS: fish, aquatic invertebrates, birds and small mammals, such as muskrats and voles

EATEN BY: sometimes eaten by coyotes, wolves and lynx

TREEVIA: The otter is trapped for its pelt in the NWT.

**Moose***Alces alces***Animal**

TRAITS: large mammal which is part of the deer family; has very long legs, high humped shoulders, a drooping nose and a "bell" hanging from its throat; males have large antlers in fall

HABITAT: prefers thickets; also seeks shelter in forests; found throughout forests of the NWT and may extend into the tundra along rivers

FOODS: browses on woody vegetation, especially willow, birch and aspen; also, in summer, eats grasses, sedges and aquatic plants such as yellow pond lily

EATEN BY: wolves, bears, humans

TREEVIA: Moose meat is an important country food and moose hides are used for making clothing and crafts.



Black Bear *Ursus americanus* Animal

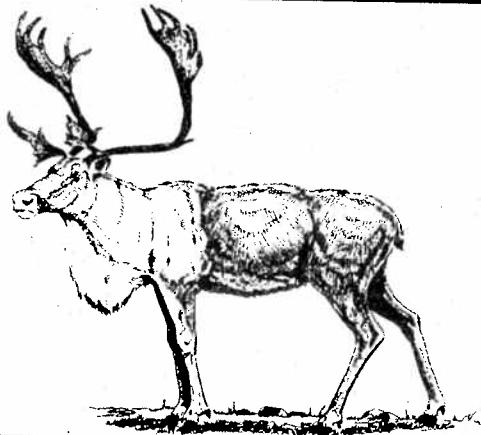
TRAITS: mammal with a broad head, short neck, stubby tail and long, coarse hair; most common colour is black with a tan muzzle, but can be blond or brown

HABITAT: forested areas throughout the NWT

FOODS: grasses, sedges, fish, bird's eggs, roots, berries, voles, insects, and sometimes a calf of moose or caribou, also eats garbage left by humans

EATEN BY: grizzly bears, humans

TREEVIA: To the Dene people, the bear is the most respected of animals in the animal world.



Caribou *Rangifer tarandus* Animal

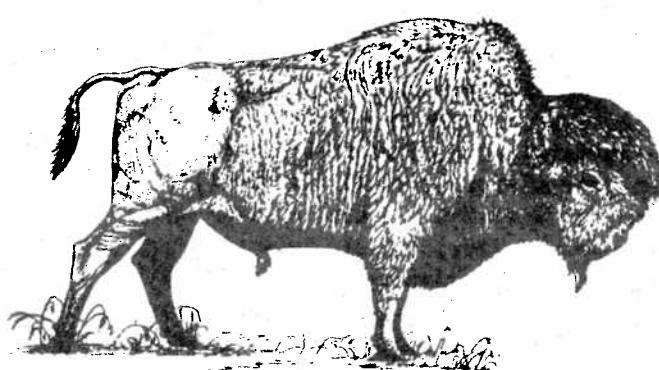
TRAITS: belongs to deer family, but both male and female have antlers; short tail is well furred; large, wide hooves; basic colour is brown, but may be lighter in colour, almost white

HABITAT: arctic and alpine tundra and coniferous forests; inhabits mainland of the NWT and some of the arctic islands

FOODS: mainly lichens, but also grasses, sedges, forbs, willow, and birch

EATEN BY: mainly wolves and humans, but also grizzly bears, wolverine and lynx

TREEVIA: Woodland caribou stay in the forested area all year round; some herds of barren-ground caribou spend the winter south of the treeline.



Wood Bison *Bison bison* Animal

TRAITS: largest land mammal in the NWT; huge head is low-slung and its shoulders have a massive hump; tail has a tassel of long hair on the end; it has short, black horns, its head, shoulders and front legs are covered by a woolly dark brown mane while the coat on the hindquarters is short and coppery brown

HABITAT: aspen parklands, meadows, coniferous forest; with ranges in the Liard River Valley, Mackenzie Bison Range, Slave River Lowlands and Wood Buffalo National Park.

FOODS: grasses, willow leaves and twigs, forbs and sedges

EATEN BY: grizzly bears, wolves, humans

TREEVIA: To improve bison grazing areas, planned burns are used to imitate the natural process of rejuvenating the meadows.



Human *Homo sapien* Animal

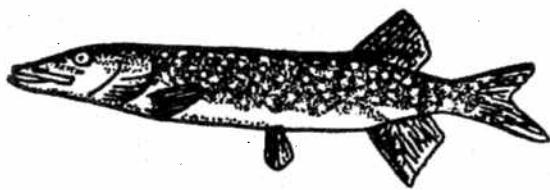
TRAITS: large mammals that walk erect on two legs; hands with opposable thumbs; have little hair compared to most other mammals

HABITAT: humans use tools to make clothing, build shelters, catch or grow food; able to live in a wide variety of habitats around the world

FOODS: caribou, moose, fish, ducks, geese, bison, sheep, seals, many plants, domesticated animals

EATEN BY: people have no known predators

TREEVIA: Humans change the environment more than any other species; can conserve wildlife and protect the environment.

**Northern Pike***Esox lucius*

Animal

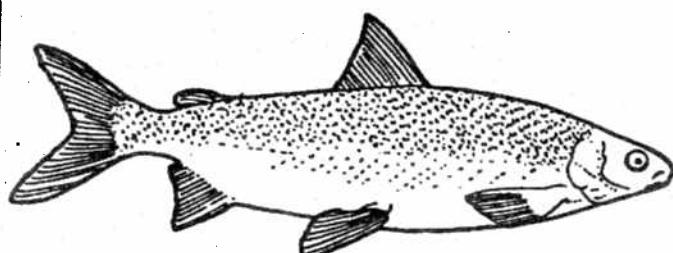
TRAITS: fish with a long body that is dark green to brown in colour along the back, with lighter sides and yellow spots; it has a long snout with large mouth and sharp teeth; generally weighs 2.3 to 6.8 kg ; spawns in spring

HABITAT: prefers warm, slow, heavily vegetated rivers or warm, weedy bays of lakes throughout most of the NWT

FOODS: sticklebacks, young pike and other fish; may also eat mice, muskrats and ducklings

EATEN BY: young are eaten by adult pike and other fish; adults are eaten by humans and eagles

TREEVIA: Pike are also called Jackfish.

**Lake Whitefish***Coregonus clupeaformis*

Animal

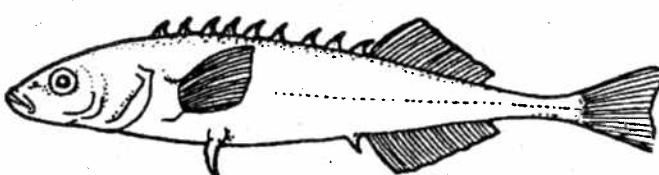
TRAITS: fish with slender, round bodies and large scales; average length is about 38 cm; silver in colour; upper jaw overlaps lower jaw and has two flaps between openings of each nostril; spawning occurs in autumn

HABITAT: fresh water throughout the mainland of the NWT

FOODS: mainly a bottom feeder, eating small clams, dragonfly and mosquito larvae, also eggs of other fish

EATEN BY: northern pike and other large fish; humans; fry are eaten by fish-eating birds, such as loons, mergansers and grebes

TREEVIA: Whitefish is the most common commercially sold freshwater fish in the NWT.

**Nine-spine Stickleback***Pungitius pungitius*

Animal

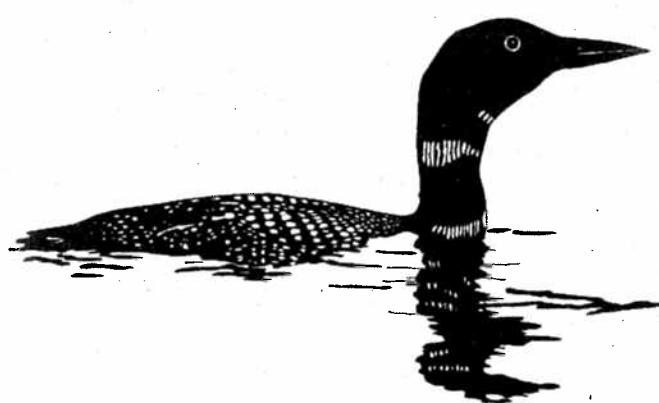
TRAITS: nine spines make up dorsal fin; small, slender, compressed body about 6.5 cm in length; large eyes; pale green, grey or olive above with irregular dark bars or blotches

HABITAT: lakes and rivers throughout most of the NWT

FOODS: aquatic insects such as water fleas, crustaceans, fish eggs

EATEN BY: fish, loons, gulls, mink, herons

TREEVIA: The spines of the stickleback can be locked in an upright position to discourage predators.

**Common Loon***Gravia immer*

Animal

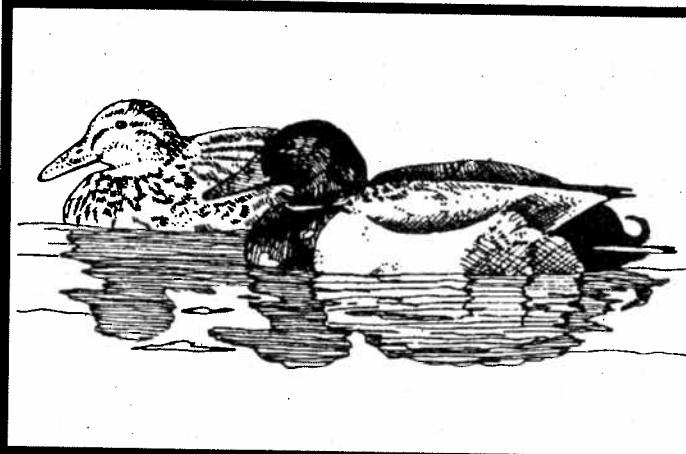
TRAITS: large black and white bird with a black, straight, tapered bill; total length, 71-89 cm

HABITAT: inhabits freshwater lakes below treeline and onto mainland tundra in the NWT

FOODS: sticklebacks, young fish; also leeches, snails, frogs and aquatic insects

EATEN BY: eggs and young may be eaten by foxes, coyotes, and mink

TREEVIA: The loon is known for its lonely and laughing calls. It is an excellent swimmer but moves awkwardly on land.



Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos* Animal

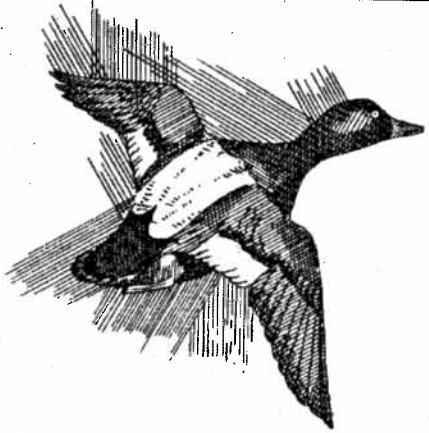
TRAITS: large dabbling duck; male: green head, white collar, chestnut breast; female: brown; total length: 50-69 cm; legs are orange; bill is greenish-yellow

HABITAT: very adaptable, lives in marshes, ponds, lakes, and rivers of the NWT south of the treeline; forages on land, especially in grain fields in southern Canada.

FOODS: aquatic vegetation, grasses, seeds, insects, grain, corn

EATEN BY: foxes, pike, mink

TREEVIA: Mallards are found throughout North America, Europe and Asia.



Greater Scaup *Aythya marila* Animal

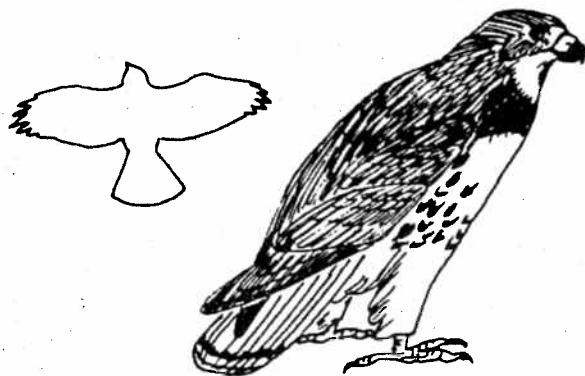
TRAITS: diving duck; male: head, breast, and rump are black, head with a greenish gloss; mid-back and belly are white; female: brown; total length: 43-53 cm; yellow eyes; bill and legs are greyish blue

HABITAT: lakes, ponds, sluggish rivers in most of the NWT south of the treeline

FOODS: sticklebacks, young fish, molluscs and aquatic plants

EATEN BY: foxes, pike, mink

TREEVIA: This bird winters along the Pacific coast to California and the Atlantic coast to Mexico.



Red-tailed Hawk *Buteo jamaicensis* Animal

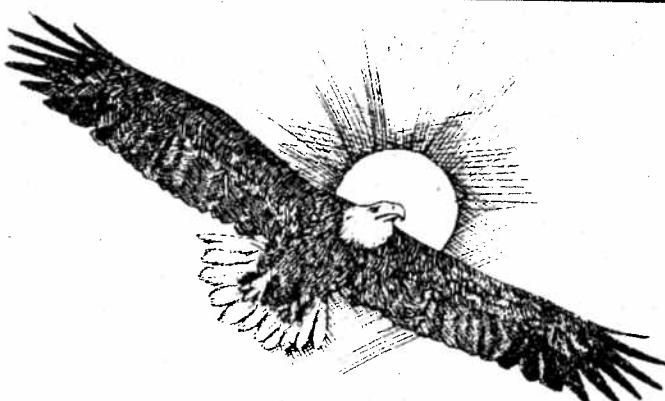
TRAITS: large brown and white bird of prey with broad, rounded wings and tail; upper surface of tail is reddish; has sharp talons and a hooked bill

HABITAT: usually nests in old trees, but sometimes on cliff ledges; feed in open areas south of the treeline in the NWT

FOODS: voles, shrews, snowshoe hares, squirrels, mice and other small mammals

EATEN BY: eggs may be taken by ravens

TREEVIA: All birds are parasitized by certain microscopic organisms, feather lice and some other invertebrate animals.



Bald Eagle *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* Animal

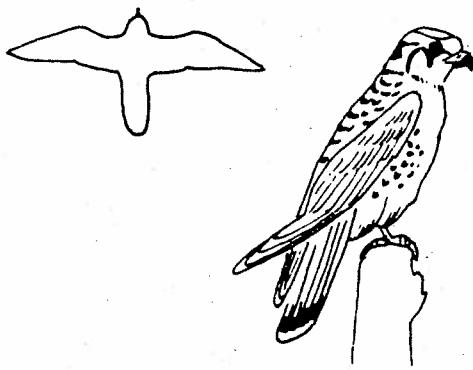
TRAITS: large dark brown bird of prey with rounded tail and wings, sharp talons and a hooked bill; adults have a white head and tail

HABITAT: old forests along rivers, lakes and ocean; usually nests in large old trees, but also nest on cliff ledges below the treeline in the NWT

FOODS: mostly fish; also dead animals such as caribou and birds

EATEN BY: no predators known; gulls and ravens may eat its eggs

TREEVIA: Bald Eagles are endangered or threatened species in many parts of North



American Kestrel *Falco sparverius* Animal

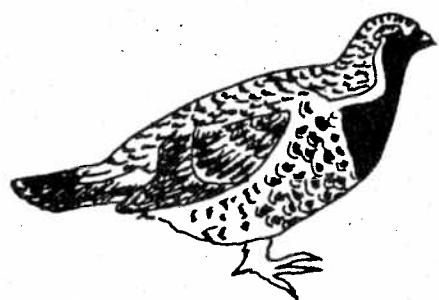
TRAITS: medium-sized bird marked with blue, reddish-brown, white and black; has a long tail, pointed wings and a sharply hooked bill

HABITAT: forest edges and openings; likes to nest in holes in dead trees

FOODS: large flying insects such as grasshoppers, dragonflies; also small mammals and birds, such as voles and sparrows

EATEN BY: no predators known

TREEVIA: The kestrel uses vacant woodpecker holes for nesting.



Spruce Grouse *Dendragapus canadensis* Animal

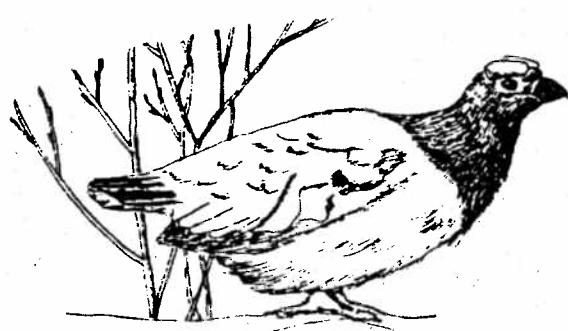
TRAITS: chicken-like bird with a rusty band at the tip of its black tail; male has black chest, while female is mottled brown and white

HABITAT: coniferous and spruce-hardwood forests throughout forested areas of the NWT

FOODS: needles and buds of coniferous trees; berries, leaves, shoots of ground cover plants; needs sand to help digest foods

EATEN BY: hawks, owls, foxes, lynx, weasels, humans

TREEVIA: Grouse are also called fool hen since they are very tame, allowing humans to approach closely.



Willow Ptarmigan *Lagopus lagopus* Animal

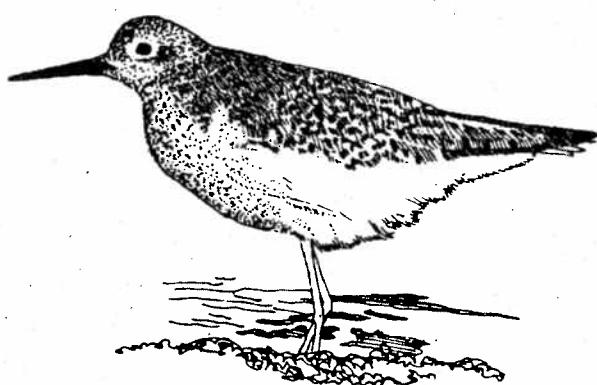
TRAITS: in winter, all white except most of tail feathers; in summer, mottled brown except wings, belly and legs which remain white; feathered legs and toes; total length: 35-43 cm

HABITAT: low arctic tundra and taiga areas in winter

FOODS: willow, birch, berries of groundcover plants, insects

EATEN BY: hawks, owls, foxes, humans

TREEVIA: Ptarmigan burrow down in snow drifts when the air temperature is cold.



Lesser Yellowlegs *Tringa flavipes* Animal

TRAITS: shorebird with long, bright yellow legs; long bill; grey and white coloration with whitish rump and tail; total length: 23-28 cm

HABITAT: for nesting, open woodland with marshes, mud flats, ponds, and lakes south of the treeline

FOODS: crustaceans and insects found in shallow waters; berries

EATEN BY: hawks, owls, foxes, mink

TREEVIA: This bird winters from South Carolina and Mexico to Chile and Argentina. The male yellowlegs plays a large part in caring for the young.



Pine Grosbeak *Pinicola enucleator* Animal

TRAITS: medium-sized bird with a long tail; stout, cone-shaped bill; males are red, females are grey with gold markings
HABITAT: young to old coniferous and mixed broadleaf-conifer forests; nests in conifer trees.

FOODS: buds, seeds and berries of trees and shrubs.

EATEN BY: kestrel, goshawk, other birds of prey

TREEVIA: Helps to carry and spread seeds of some berry-producing plants.



Great Horned Owl *Bubo virginianus* Animal

TRAITS: large, brown owl with large ear tufts; large yellow eyes; sharp talons and hooked bill; total length: 46-59 cm

HABITAT: mature forests throughout the NWT

FOODS: small mammals and birds, including: hares, squirrels, voles, grouse, ducks

EATEN BY: no known predators

TREEVIA: Owls are nocturnal - hunt at night. They are skilled hunters because they are silent when they fly and have excellent hearing.



Northern Flicker *Colaptes auratus* Animal

TRAITS: large, brown woodpecker with white rump patch and black-spotted underparts; black crescent on its breast, yellow under the wings and tail, and a red nape patch

HABITAT: open ground to feed, beneath evergreen trees; along streams; in burnt areas; throughout forests of the NWT

FOODS: mainly ants, other insects, fruits, berries

EATEN BY: hawks

TREEVIA: Flickers have strong skulls which allow them to bore into trees; chisel-like bills with long tongues aid in reaching insects in wood.



Hairy Woodpecker *Picoides villosus* Animal

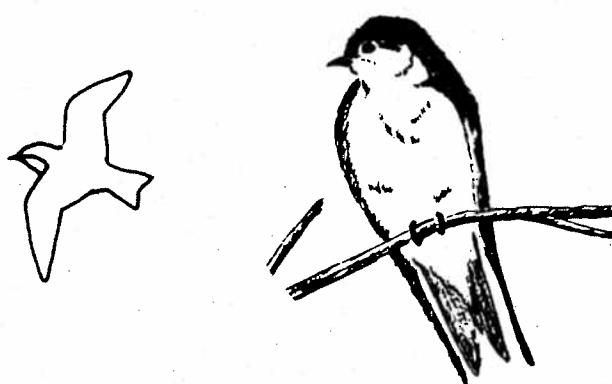
TRAITS: black and white with broad white stripe down back; adult males have red patch at back of head; chisel-shaped bill; total length: 21-27 cm

HABITAT: forests of the NWT south of Great Bear Lake

FOODS: bark beetles, ants, other invertebrates living under tree bark

EATEN BY: falcons, hawks

TREEVIA: Like all woodpeckers, the hairy woodpecker has a stiff tail which acts as a brace while drumming on a tree.



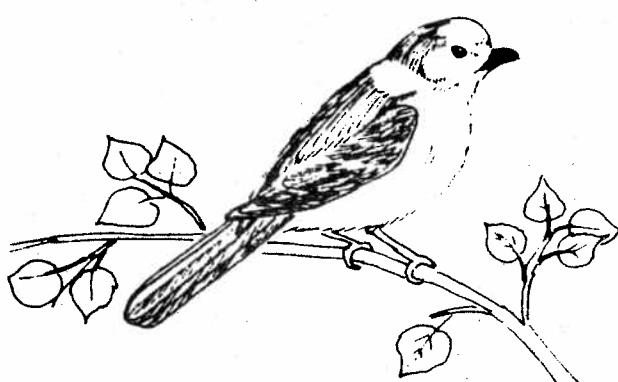
Tree Swallow *Tachycineta bicolor* Animal

TRAITS: small bird with long, pointed wings, slightly forked tail; colour is white with steel blue markings; 12-16 cm long.
HABITAT: needs holes in dead trees for nesting, but feeds in forest openings and over water; found in forested areas of the NWT

FOODS: flying insects, such as moths, beetles, flies, bees and dragonflies

EATEN BY: squirrels may eat eggs, falcons, hawks,

TREEVIA: The tree swallow has a wide mouth for capturing insects in the air.



Gray Jay *Perisoreus canadensis* Animal

TRAITS: medium-sized grey bird with a long tail and rounded wings; short, slightly hooked bill; total length is 27-31 cm

HABITAT: coniferous and mixed-wood forests and forest openings; throughout most of the NWT, extending into tundra

FOODS: eggs and young of other birds, small mammals, insects, invertebrates, berries, dead animals, garbage

EATEN BY: hawks, falcons

TREEVIA: The Gray Jay is also known as the Canada Jay or Whiskey Jack. It is tame, bold and curious, often visiting campsites for scraps.



Common Raven *Corvus corax* Animal

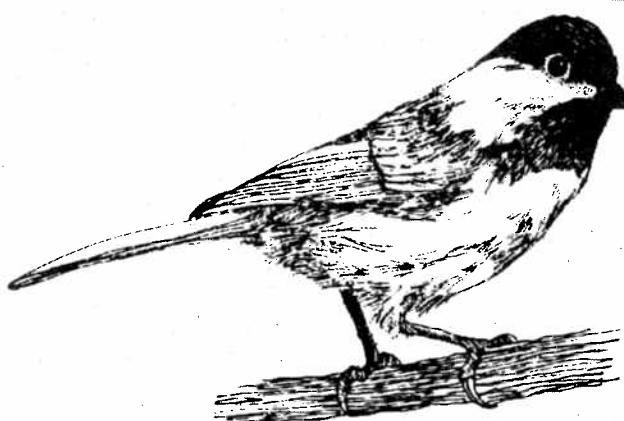
TRAITS: large, black bird with a wedge-shaped tail, broad wings, sharp talons and a heavy bill. Its total length is 56-67 cm

HABITAT: forests, tundra, wetlands, mountains; frequents shores of lakes, rivers and seas; garbage dumps; throughout all of the NWT

FOODS: garbage, dead animals, eggs and young of other birds, small mammals, berries

EATEN BY: eggs taken by marten, jays and other predators

TREEVIA: In Dene legends, the raven is an animal with special powers and should be treated with great respect.



Boreal Chickadee *Parus hudsonicus* Animal

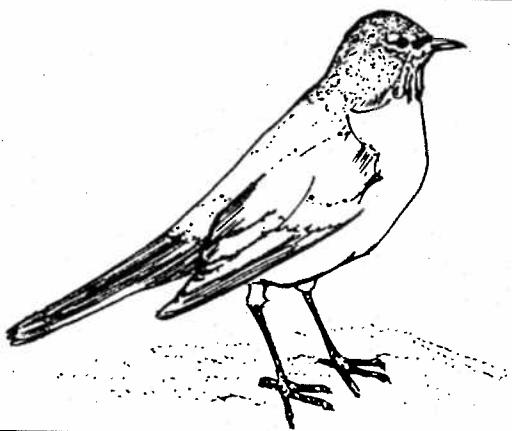
TRAITS: small bird with a thin bill, long tail and brown cap; total length is 12-14 cm

HABITAT: mature to old boreal forest

FOODS: mainly insects - thrips, moths, flies, wasps, spiders

EATEN BY: small hawks or owls

TREEVIA: Chickadees need dead trees with holes for nesting. The holes are made by woodpeckers and fungi.



American Robin *Turdus migratorius* Animal

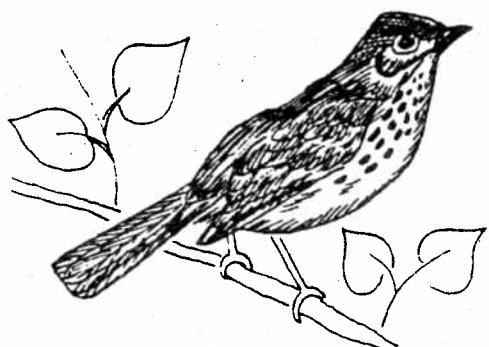
TRAITS: medium-sized bird with long tail and a short, thin bill. Colouring is grey on back with a reddish breast; total length 23-28 cm

HABITAT: open places with many groundcover plants; uses tall shrubs and trees for songposts or nest sites. Found in boreal forest and some tundra areas

FOODS: beetles, grasshoppers, ants, worms, grubs; also berries and seeds

EATEN BY: hawks, falcons

TREEVIA: Robins may help to transport seeds of berry-producing plants.



Thrushes *Catharus* species Animal

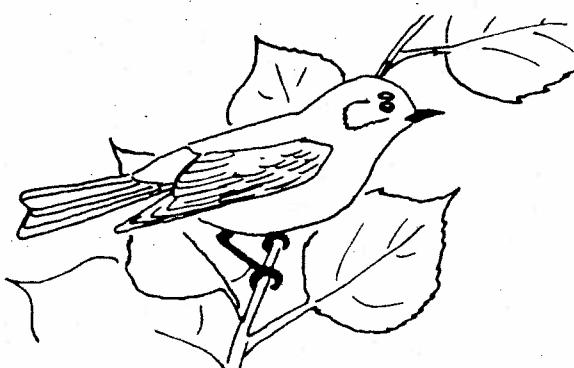
TRAITS: medium-sized bird with brown colouring on its upper parts and white with dark spots on its breast; total length 16-20 cm

HABITAT: Gray-Checked Thrush prefers coniferous forest across most of the forested NWT and extends north and east onto the tundra; Swainson's Thrushes inhabit tall deciduous shrubbery and coniferous woods south of the treeline; Hermit Thrushes occur in mixed and coniferous woods in the southern Mackenzie area.

FOODS: insects, spiders, grubs, berries, seeds

EATEN BY: squirrels eat eggs, hawks, falcons

TREEVIA: Thrushes are noted for their flute-like songs.



Warblers Animal

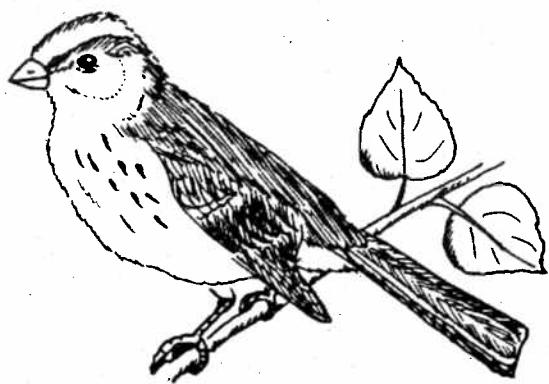
TRAITS: very small birds with thin bills; brightly coloured: most have yellow markings; total length: 11-15 cm

HABITAT: coniferous, mixed, deciduous forests; bogs; alder and willow thickets; burnt areas; occur in forests of the NWT; Yellow and Blackpoll Warbler extend into the tundra

FOODS: true bugs, leafhoppers, moth and butterfly larvae, flies, aphids, beetles, sawflies, spiders; also some seeds and fruits

EATEN BY: falcons, hawks

TREEVIA: Warblers are very active birds. In summer, you may see them constantly flitting about branches in search of insects. Different kinds of warblers feed in different heights of trees.



Sparrows Animal

TRAITS: small birds with stout, cone-shaped bills. Most are brown on back, paler underneath; some have streaks on the breast; total length: 10-16 cm

HABITAT: open shrubby areas; along streams; in bogs; openings and at edges of woodlands, burned areas; occur in forests of the NWT, some extending into the tundra

FOODS: mainly seeds of groundcover plants and some insects

EATEN BY: hawks, falcons, shrikes; shrews, squirrels and ermine eat eggs and young

TREEVIA: Sparrows often use hair from moose, or feathers from other birds to line their nests.



Common Redpoll *Carduelis flammea* Animal

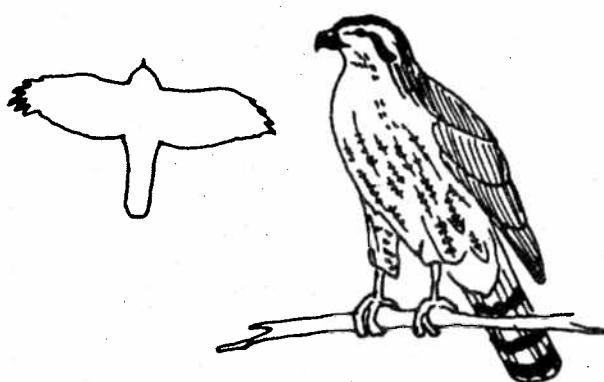
TRAITS: small bird with a red cap and a stout, cone-shaped bill; total length 11-15 cm

HABITAT: shrubby areas of alder, willow, dwarf birch and stunted spruce; occurs through most of mainland NWT and part of Baffin Island

FOODS: mainly seeds and buds of willow, aspen, birch and alder

EATEN BY: falcons, hawks; weasels and squirrels may eat eggs

TREEVIA: Can be found as far north as Clyde Inlet and Cumberland Peninsula on Baffin Island.



Goshawk *Accipiter gentilis* Animal

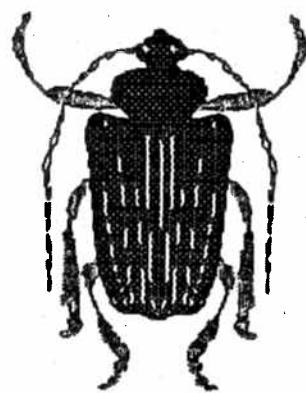
TRAITS: large gray bird with a long tail and rounded wings, sharp talons and a hooked beak

HABITAT: mixed conifer-broadleaf forests with large, old trees for nest sites

FOODS: squirrels, grouse, large songbirds, ducks, hares, ermine

EATEN BY: no known predators

TREEVIA: Goshawks are often confused with gyrfalcons which live in tundra areas near rocky outcrops and cliffs.



Longhorned Beetles Animal

TRAITS: large insects with thick, dark front wings, antenna half as long as body or more

HABITAT: weakened, dying, dead or freshly cut or fallen trees; recent burns contain many dead trees, so longhorns are attracted to these sites; they are able to smell smoke and detect fires from 25 miles away

FOOD: adults eat leaves and flowers; larvae eat wood

EATEN BY: woodpeckers, ichneumon wasp larvae

TREEVIA: In the stomach of this group of beetles, microscopic bacteria play a role in assisting in the digestion of the plant materials eaten. The bacteria breaks down the plants and releases valuable minerals and nutrients.



Bark Beetles Animal

TRAITS: small, round-bodied insects with thickened front wings; small antennae with clubs on the tips

HABITAT: under tree bark in cut, dying or dead trees

FOOD: varies by species; most eat the underside of tree bark or wood; others (ambrosia bark beetles) feed on fungi that grows in the tunnels they bore into wood

EATEN BY: woodpeckers, brown creepers, ichneumon wasp larvae

TREEVIA: Most bark beetles need bacteria to break down and digest the wood they consume; some species have these microscopic organisms living in their stomachs.



Carrion Beetles

Animal

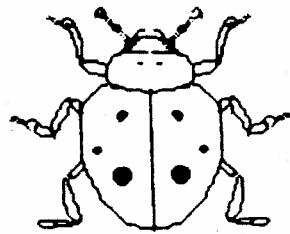
TRAITS: large, round-bodied insect with thickened front wings, black with red, orange, or yellow markings, clubbed antennae

HABITAT: soil and litter of forests

FOOD: they feed on dead animals, such as voles, and prey on other insects that feed on dead animals, such as fly larvae; the adult female lays her eggs and buries them with a dead animal

EATEN BY: thrushes, shrews, mice, voles

TREEVIA: Most carrion beetles have mites riding on their backs. These mites get a free ride to new food sources, but do not affect the beetle.



Lady Beetles

Animal

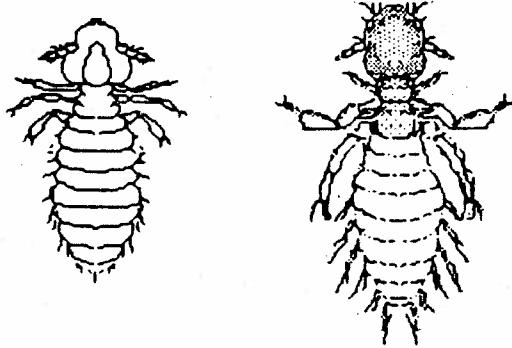
TRAITS: red, orange or yellow insects with very round bodies, thickened front wings, usually with spots on them; larvae are usually dark with bands of colour and covered with spines

HABITAT: on leaves and stems of plants in forests, shrub thickets, and meadows

FOOD: most adults and larvae prey on aphids and other small insects, and mites; a few species eat plant leaves

EATEN BY: warblers, chickadees, thrushes

TREEVIA: Sometimes used to control aphids in gardens or greenhouses.



Lice

Animal

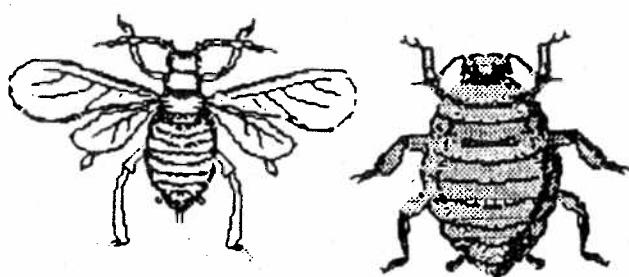
TRAITS: small, wingless insects with sucking or chewing mouthparts

HABITAT: found on the skin, fur, or feathers of birds or mammals

FOODS: varies by species; some suck blood of mammals or birds; others eat dead skin, feathers, or fur

EATEN BY: unknown

TREEVIA: All lice are parasites of birds or mammals; some blood-sucking lice carry microscopic organisms that cause diseases of mammals and birds.



Aphids or Plant Lice

Animal

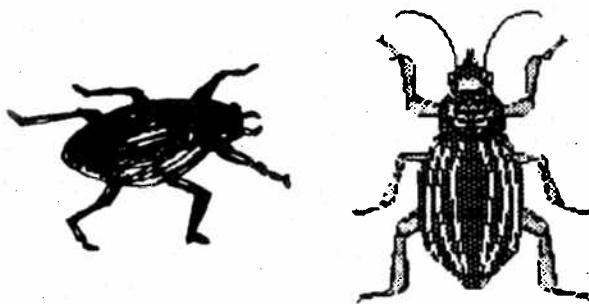
TRAITS: pear-shaped insects; winged and wingless forms in the same species; most have 2 tubes, cornicles, on the top of their abdomen

HABITAT: leaves and stems of plants

FOODS: sap of plants; they cause plant leaves to wilt, curl, and turn yellow

EATEN BY: ants, wasps, warblers, chickadees, kinglets, wrens, sparrows

TREEVIA: Aphids produce a secretion, called honeydew. In order to obtain this honeydew, certain ants protect and tend aphids. Some aphids cause plants to form irregular swellings called galls.



Ground Beetles

Animal

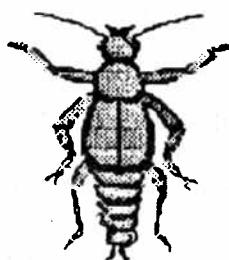
TRAITS: dark, flattened insects with front wings thickened and shiny with grooves running from front to back; long legs, large mouthparts

HABITAT: in most habitats on land; most are active only at night and hide during the day under logs, rocks, or leaf litter

FOODS: varies by species; some adults feed on dead animal remains; others prey on insects, such as caterpillars, or on slugs and snails

EATEN BY: jays, thrushes, wrens, sparrows, centipedes

TREEVIA: This large beetle family has over 3,000 species in North America.



Rove Beetles

Animal

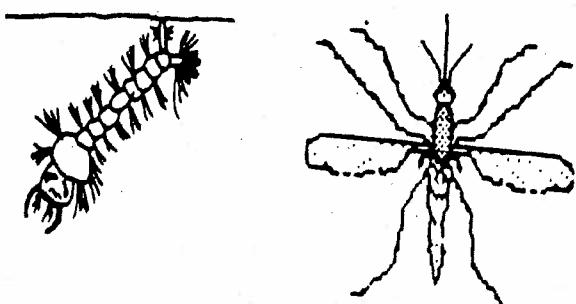
TRAITS: dark, flattened insects with short, thick front wings, long slender body, and a habit of holding their abdomen up over their back when running away; some have large mouthparts that cross at the tips; may be covered by hairs

HABITAT: soil in forests and other habitats

FOODS: varies by species; most adults feed on dead animal or plant remains; others prey on insects, such as ants

EATEN BY: thrushes, jays, wrens, sparrows, centipedes, ground beetles, mice, shrews

TREEVIA: There are almost 2,900 different species of Rove beetles in North America.



Mosquitos

Animal

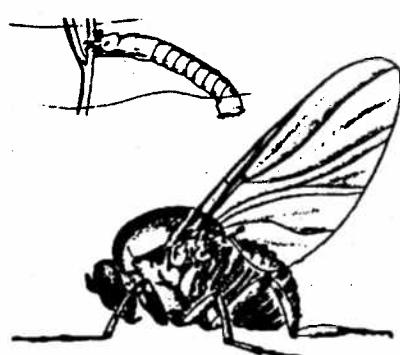
TRAITS: small insects with long legs, one pair of clear wings and a pair of knobs, called halteres, on the back, piercing and sucking mouthparts from a tube; males have feather-like antennae

HABITAT: larvae live in the water; adults are found in most habitats including forests; males are often found in or near flowers

FOODS: larvae feed on algae, protozoa, and dead plants; adult males feed on flower nectar, while adult females suck the blood of animals

EATEN BY: bats, swallows, warblers, dragonflies

TREEVIA: Males pollinate flowers; females carry microscopic organisms that cause diseases.



Blackflies

Animal

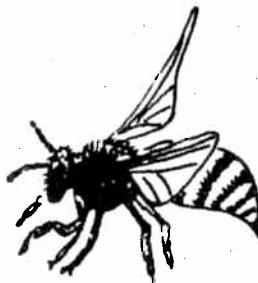
TRAITS: small dark insects with a humped back, one pair of clear wings, and a pair of knobs, halteres, on the back; short legs and broad wings

HABITAT: wetlands, forests, tundra

FOODS: larvae live in the water and feed on algae, protozoans, and dead plant material; adults feed on flower nectar; female adults also suck blood from vertebrate animals

EATEN BY: bats, warblers, chickadees, flycatchers, swallows, mice, dragonflies

TREEVIA: Some blackflies pollinate flowers; females carry microscopic, disease-causing organisms.



Yellowjackets and Hornets

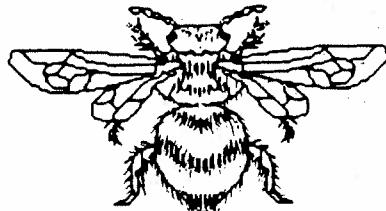
Animal

TRAITS: insects with bright black and yellow or white markings; the third body segment is separated from the middle one by a narrow waist; the tip of the abdomen is pointed and has a stinger
HABITAT: hornets build paper nests in the ground and in or on trees

FOODS: adults feed on flower nectar, ripe fruit, and other insects; they feed on larvae insects, such as caterpillars and flies, meat from dead animals, and nectar

EATEN BY: insect-eating birds such as flycatchers and swallows

TREEVIA: Some hornets pollinate flowers.



Bumblebees

Animal

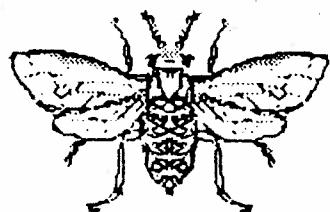
TRAITS: insects with 4 wings, hind wings much smaller than front ones; hairy body covered with black, and yellow or orange markings

HABITAT: any habitat with a variety of nectar-producing flowers; includes pioneer, tall shrub, and old forest habitats; nests in the ground

FOODS: nectar and pollen of flowering plants

EATEN BY: flycatchers, swallows, warblers

TREEVIA: Bees are among the most important plant pollinators; some species eat the nectar and pollen, and pollinate, only one species of plant; mites often hitch rides on bees to reach new areas.



Sawflies

Animal

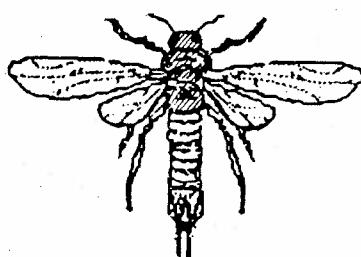
TRAITS: insects with 4 clear wings, hind wings smaller than forewings; long antennae, pointed abdomen

HABITAT: adults use a variety of habitats, but larvae usually live only on a particular species of plant; larvae overwinter in leaf litter

FOODS: mainly leaves of conifers, hardwoods and other plants; larvae of some species are leaf miners. Some species eat nectar or pollen and some eat other small insects

EATEN BY: flycatchers, swallows, certain wasps

TREEVIA: Some sawflies cause willows to form galls.



Horntails

Animal

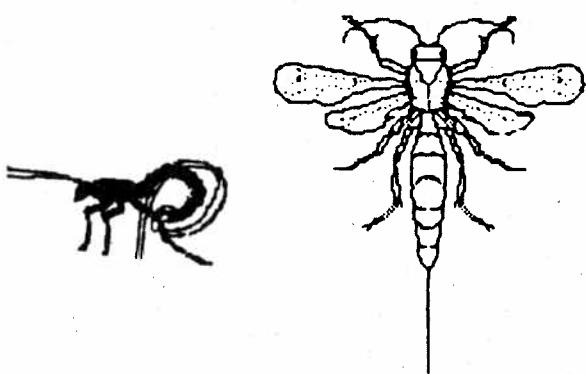
TRAITS: insect with 4 clear wings, hind wings smaller than forewings; long cylinder-shaped abdomen with a spine-like projection at the tail end which is used for egg-laying; this insect does not sting

HABITAT: forests; larvae live in wood of living or dead trees

FOODS: larvae eat wood of both deciduous and coniferous trees

EATEN BY: woodpeckers, creepers, nuthatches, ichneumon wasps

TREEVIA: Some horntails are parasitized by ichneumon wasps.



Ichneumon Wasps

Animal

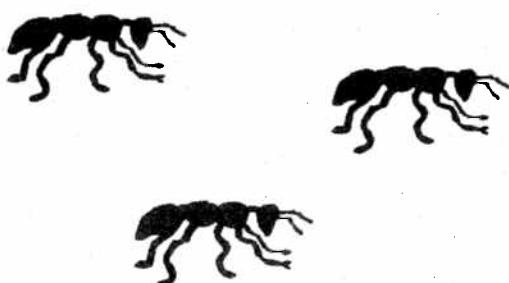
TRAITS: insects with long narrow bodies, 4 clear wings, of which the hind pair is smaller; antenna that are at least half as long as the body; some have a long, narrow, tail-like structure for egg-laying

HABITAT: any habitat where there are host insects available

FOODS: these wasps lay their eggs inside larval sawflies, horntails, butterflies, moths, and spiders; when the eggs hatch, the larvae eat the host

EATEN BY: flycatchers, swallows, thrushes, warblers, chickadees

TREEVIA: These wasps are important parasites of immature insects.



Ants

Animal

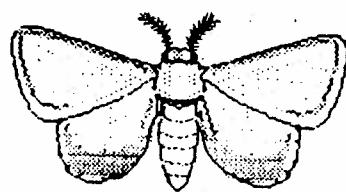
TRAITS: body clearly divided into 3 segments by narrow constrictions; last segment forms a pointed end; many secrete formic acid as a defence; only certain kinds of adults have wings

HABITAT: in colonies in the ground or wood

FOODS: varies between species. Some feed on flower nectar, plant juices, or aphid honeydew. Others feed on seeds, leaves, or dead organisms, and some are predators on other insects

EATEN BY: flickers, wrens, thrushes, sparrows

TREEVIA: Some protect aphids from predators, then feed on the sugary secretion, "honeydew", produced by the aphids. Some carry pollen between plants.



Moths

Animal

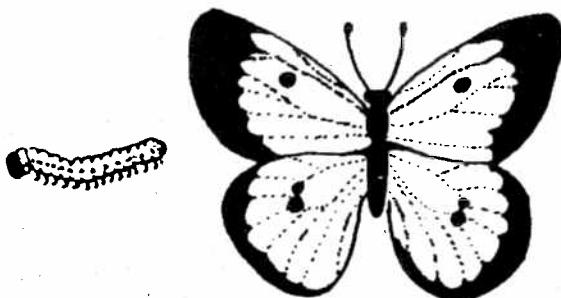
TRAITS: insects with 4 large wings with powder-like scales; large eyes, long antennae that are either feather-like or tapered at ends; most have tube-like mouths that coil up when not in use, Larvae spin cocoons; some larvae make tents of silk threads

HABITAT: adults use a variety of habitats; most larvae can only live on a particular species of plant

FOODS: adults feed mainly on flower nectar; most larvae feed on plant leaves, fruit, stems and roots

EATEN BY: bats, shrews, ground beetles, warblers, swallows, flycatchers, chickadees, kinglets

TREEVIA: Adults pollinate flowers; larvae are parasitized by ichneumon wasps.



Butterflies

Animal

TRAITS: adults have 4 large wings with powder-like scales, large compound eyes, long antennae that have clubs at the tips, and tube-like mouths that coil up when not in use. Adults are active in the daytime; larvae form a chrysalis for pupation

HABITAT: adults use a variety of habitats; most larvae can live only on a particular species of plant

FOODS: adults feed mainly on flower nectar; most larvae feed on plant leaves, fruit, stems, or roots

EATEN BY: insect-eating birds such as warblers, and flycatchers; ground beetles, wasps, dragonflies

TREEVIA: Adults pollinate flowers. Larvae are often parasitized by ichneumon wasps.



Blowflies

Animal

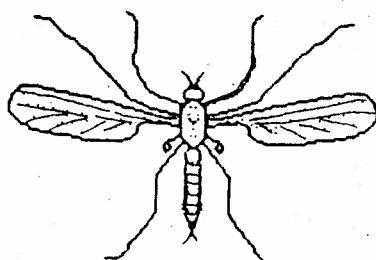
TRAITS: insects with one pair of clear wings and a pair of small knobs (called halteres), large eyes, metallic blue or green backs

HABITAT: varies; mainly in the soil or on and in dead animals

FOODS: varies; liquids from decaying plants and animals, animal wastes or blood

EATEN BY: warblers, flycatchers, chickadees, and thrushes; shrews, carrion beetles, dragonflies, hornets, centipedes

TREEVIA: Some blowflies are important as plant pollinators. Many flies transport microscopic organisms that cause disease in animals.



Craneflies

Animal

TRAITS: very long-legged insects that resemble huge mosquitoes; they have one pair of clear wings and a small pair of knobs (called halteres) on the back

HABITAT: varies; larvae live in moist soil and decaying plants in forests; a few live in the water

FOODS: algae

EATEN BY: warblers, flycatchers, swallows, chickadees, thrushes, sparrows, shrews, carrion beetles, centipedes, hornets, dragonflies

TREEVIA: Some craneflies pollinate flowers.



Centipedes

Animal

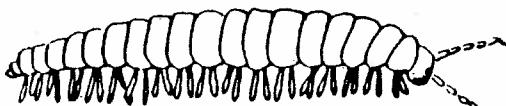
TRAITS: a small worm-like animal with only one pair of legs on each of its body segments

HABITAT: in soil and humus, or beneath stones, bark, or logs

FOODS: invertebrates that live in the soil, including springtails, bristletails, ground beetles, fly larvae, flea larvae, mites, worms, snails

EATEN BY: thrushes, winter wrens

TREEVIA: Capture their prey by using their poisonous claws.



Millipedes

Animal

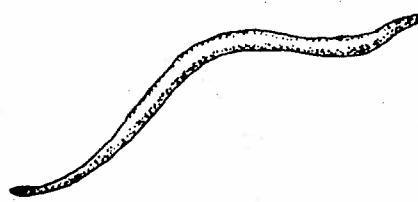
TRAITS: slender-bodied worm-like animals with distinct segments along the body, with two leg-like structures on each segment

HABITAT: under rocks, logs, and in rotten leaves, wood or soil.

FOODS: varies by species; most eat decaying plants and fungi; a few eat centipedes, worms, or insects

EATEN BY: thrushes, sparrows, wrens, ground beetles

TREEVIA: Some species have glands that secrete a poison called hydrogen cyanide when disturbed or threatened.



Roundworms

Animal

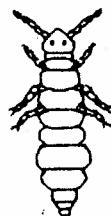
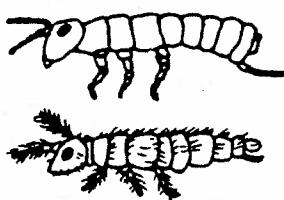
TRAITS: slender worms tapered at both ends and without any segments

HABITAT: various species live in the soil, on mosses, lichens, or leaves, or on waste materials; many live in water

FOODS: varies by species; some feed on algae and fungi or suck out fluids from plants; others prey on tiny animals; some eat waste materials

EATEN BY: centipedes

TREEVIA: These worms often hitch rides to new areas on the legs of flies, beetles, birds, or mammals; many nematodes are parasites of plants or animals.



Springtails

Animal

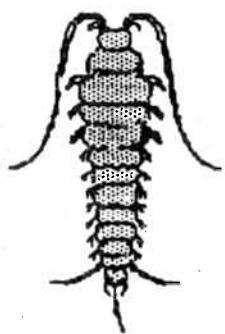
TRAITS: small wingless insects with chewing mouthparts, a tube-like part on its front underside, collophore, and a forked spring-like part, furcula, on its rear underside

HABITAT: lives in soil, litter, decaying logs, and moss; a few species live in trees

FOODS: decaying materials, algae, lichens, pollen, and fungal spores

EATEN BY: centipedes, ground beetles, shrews, thrushes

TREEVIA: Are able to spring up to 100 mm by using its furcula.



Bristletails

Animal

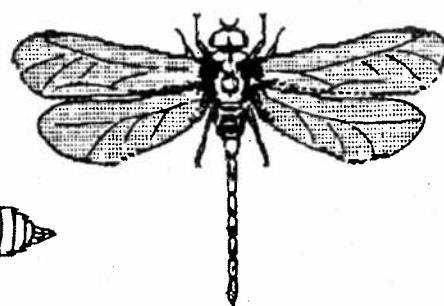
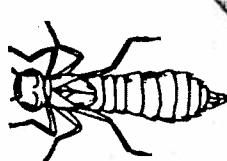
TRAITS: wingless insects with 3 tail-like parts and long antennae; often covered with scales; chewing mouthparts; may run quickly or jump

HABITAT: damp, moist litter and soil of forests and meadows; under bark of logs or under rocks

FOODS: decaying leaves

EATEN BY: centipedes, shrews, thrushes, ground beetles

TREEVIA: Their bodies are often covered with scales.



Dragonflies

Animal

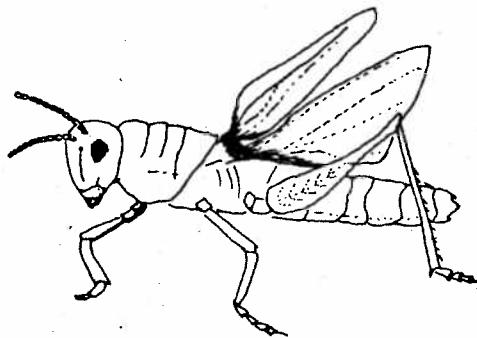
TRAITS: insects with large eyes, long narrow abdomen, and 2 pairs of large wings; their wings are held out at right angles to their body; hind wings broader at the base than forewings

HABITAT: larvae live on aquatic plants or on the bottom of streams or ponds; adults live near water in many habitats, including forests

FOODS: larvae prey on aquatic insects, tadpoles, and small fish; adults eat small flying insects including: mosquitos, moths, lacewings, beetles, and others

EATEN BY: insect-eating birds such as swallows

TREEVIA: Adult dragonflies have brightly coloured bodies.



Grasshoppers

Animal

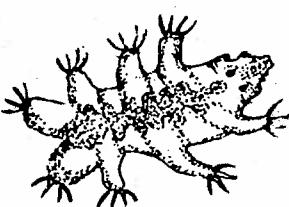
TRAITS: insects with large hind legs for jumping; most have thickened and narrow front wings and hind wings that are clear and large; all have chewing mouthparts

HABITAT: most habitats with herbaceous plants and grasses

FOODS: leaves, stems, and other parts of plants

EATEN BY: American kestrels and other insect-eating birds

TREEVIA: Grasshoppers have hind legs that are useful for jumping.



Tardigrades

Animal

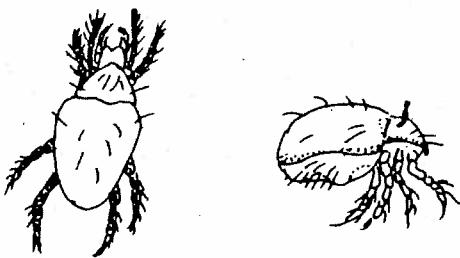
TRAITS: tiny to microscopic in size; chubby with 4 pairs of short legs with 4 to 8 claws on each leg

HABITAT: lives in the water film around mosses and lichens

FOODS: fluids from inside the cells of mosses and lichens

EATEN BY: roundworms, centipedes

TREEVIA: Can survive for years in an inactive state when conditions are adverse.



Mites

Animal

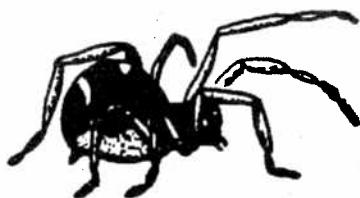
TRAITS: tiny to microscopic animals, with 8 legs and a pear-shaped body

HABITAT: extremely abundant in moss, rotten leaves, humus, and soil of forests

FOODS: varies by species; many prey on roundworms, other mites, and insect larvae such as: springtails, bristletails, rove beetles, flies; others feed on plants, or on dead plants and animals

EATEN BY: centipedes, some ground beetles, lady beetles, winter wrens, thrushes, sparrows

TREEVIA: Some detritivore mites ride on the backs of carrion beetles; some mites parasitize other animals.



Spiders

Animal

TRAITS: small animals with 8 legs, body appears divided into a large abdomen and a small head with large fangs

HABITAT: in and on soil or leaf litter; on plants; in rotten logs

FOODS: all spiders are predators that feed on small animals, mainly insects such as aphids, flies, rove beetles, springtails, bristletails, and others

EATEN BY: insect-eating birds, such as thrushes, winter wrens

TREEVIA: Most spiders spin webs that have a variety of uses that include capturing prey, securing an egg sac to a surface, and transportation from one spot to another.



True Bugs

Animal

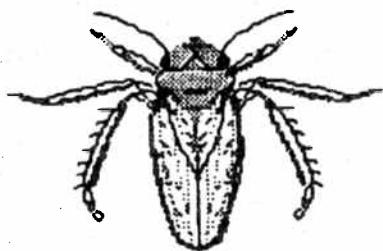
TRAITS: front wings thick, colored, and hardened near body, but thin and often clear at the tips; held flat over body; beak-like mouthparts at front of head

HABITAT: varies by species; some live only on the species of plant they eat, others are predatory and use various habitats

FOODS: varies by species; plant sap or fruit juices; juice from fungi; fluids from insects or other animals, or juices from both plants and animals

EATEN BY: insect-eating animals, such as chickadees, thrushes, warblers, shrews, wasps, ground beetles

TREEVIA: Many true bugs give off odours to repel their predators.



Leafhoppers

Animal

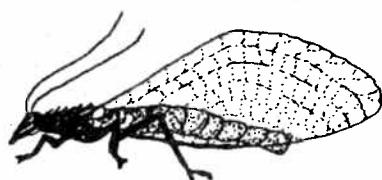
TRAITS: front pair of wings thin and clear, or only slightly coloured, held roof-like over body; beak-like mouth comes out of the rear underside side of the head; one or more rows of spines on the hindlegs

HABITAT: found on plants in forests and other habitats

FOODS: sap of plants

EATEN BY: warblers, thrushes, chickadees, shrews, ground beetles, centipedes

TREEVIA: Many leaf hoppers carry microscopic parasitic organisms from one plant to another.



Lacewings

Animal

TRAITS: green or brown insects with large, clear wings with net-like veins, held tent-like over their body; small head with large eyes and chewing mouthparts, long antennae

HABITAT: on leaves of trees and shrubs; eggs are attached to a leaf by a thread the female forms; larvae spin a cocoon

FOODS: Adults eat pollen, nectar and aphid honey-dew; larvae prey on mites, aphids and other insects

EATEN BY: thrushes, warblers, chickadees, kinglets, hornets, dragonflies, bats, shrews

TREEVIA: Some lacewings give off an unpleasant odour when handled.



Thrips

Animal

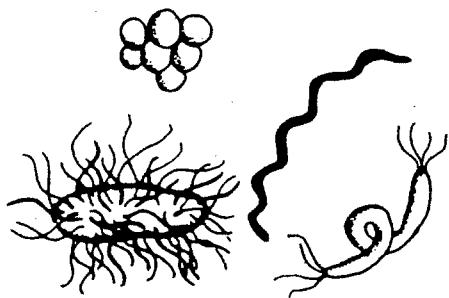
TRAITS: tiny winged, or wingless, long-bodied insects; if winged, they have four narrow wings with fringes of long hairs; antennae, and tube-like mouthparts

HABITAT: flowers, leaves of plants

FOODS: most eat flowers, leaves, buds, and fruits; a few eat fungal spores or mites and small insects

EATEN BY: warblers, chickadees, creepers, wrens, ants, hornets, ground beetles, lacewings

TREEVIA: Some carry microscopic organisms that cause plant diseases.



Bacteria

Monera

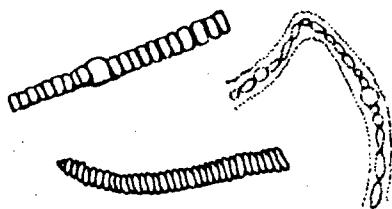
TRAITS: microscopic; lack a cell nucleus

HABITAT: different species have different requirements, but some types of bacteria are found in any moist environment; a tablespoon of forest soil may contain 3-10 billion bacteria

FOODS: mainly dead plant, fungi, and animal material; some kinds of bacteria live as parasites of living things, and some are able to make their own food

EATEN BY: protozoans, some fungi

TREEVIA: Some bacteria live as parasites of plants, animals, or fungi and cause diseases of these organisms; other kinds live in the digestive tracts of animals and aid in digestion of their foods.



Cyanobacteria

Monera

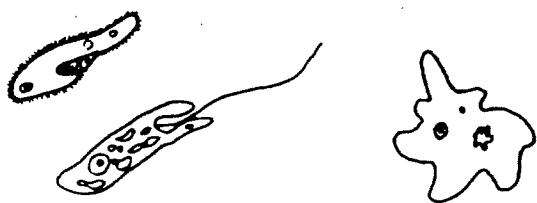
TRAITS: microscopic; lack a cell nucleus; containing chlorophyll, often visible as a scum on the surface of water, wet rocks, or logs

HABITAT: standing water, wet rocks, logs, moss

FOODS: most are able to make their own food through photosynthesis

EATEN BY: protozoans, springtails

TREEVIA: Some cyanobacteria join with fungi to form lichens; fungi provides shelter.



Protozoans

Protista

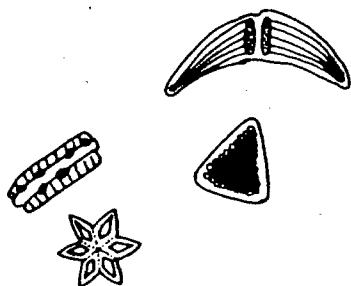
TRAITS: microscopic organisms with a cell nucleus; most are able to move around using flagella, cilia, or in an amoeboid fashion

HABITAT: in water, or droplets of water on leaf surfaces, forest litter, under rocks, or in soil

FOODS: varies by species; many eat dead plant material and animal wastes; others feed on bacteria, cyanobacteria, algae, or other protozoans

EATEN BY: protozoans, roundworms, segmented worms

TREEVIA: Some live in a symbiotic relationship in the intestines of certain animals and aid them in digestion of their foods.



Algae

Monera and Protista

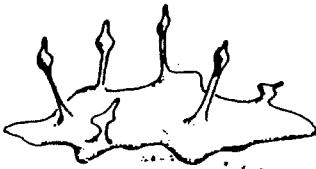
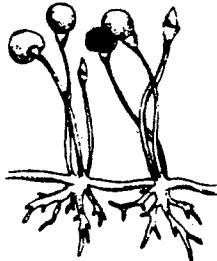
TRAITS: microscopic organisms with a cell nucleus, most contain chlorophyll

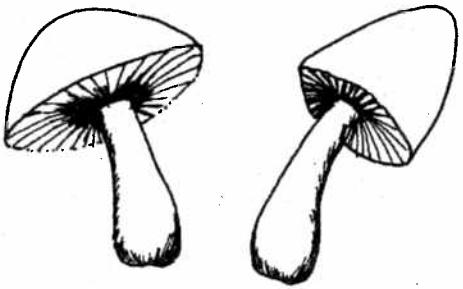
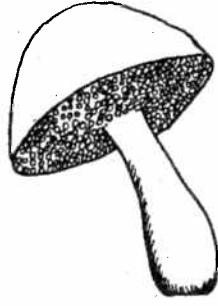
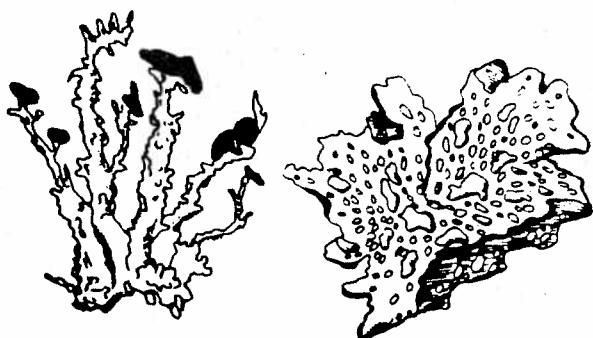
HABITAT: in water or films of water on soil, rocks, tree branches, or logs

FOODS: most algae are able to make their own food through photosynthesis

EATEN BY: protozoans, roundworms, segmented worms, springtails, mites

TREEVIA: Some algae join with certain fungi to form lichens; examples of algae: diatoms, spirogyra, dinoflagellates (red tides).

	<p>Slime Molds</p> <p>*Fungi or Protista</p> <p>TRAITS: appearing as a slime-like covering on logs, trees, or moist soil; sometimes covered with small, flag-like, fruiting bodies</p> <p>HABITAT: wet, shaded locations in forests</p> <p>FOODS: engulfs bacteria and other microscopic organisms</p> <p>EATEN BY: unknown</p> <p>TREEVIA: During part of its life it slowly rolls along like an amoeba and leaves a trail of slime.</p> <p>* The classification of slime molds is still being debated; some scientists consider them fungi, others consider them better classified as protists.</p>
	<p>Molds, Mildews, and Rusts</p> <p>Fungi</p> <p>TRAITS: apparent as a fine powder, fuzz, or furry coating on leaves or other plant parts or animal droppings; or as an abnormal growth</p> <p>HABITAT: dead plants or waste materials; though, certain kinds occur on living plants or insects</p> <p>FOODS: feed on dead plant materials, but rarely on wood; some species live as parasites on plants or insects</p> <p>EATEN BY: springtails, bacteria</p> <p>TREEVIA: Some of these fungi, particularly rusts, are parasites of plants and cause abnormal growths such as galls or witches brooms.</p>
	<p>Morels</p> <p>Fungi</p> <p>TRAITS: mushroom-like fungi; the top of the fruiting body or mushroom is ridged and pitted</p> <p>HABITAT: varies by species; spruce forests, old burns</p> <p>FOODS: dead plant material and animal wastes</p> <p>EATEN BY: squirrels, voles, humans</p> <p>TREEVIA: This mushroom is valued as a specialty food. Some commercial harvest of morels has taken place in the NWT in one-year old burns.</p>
	<p>Truffles</p> <p>Fungi</p> <p>TRAITS: a type of fungi that produce underground fruiting bodies that look like spongy balls</p> <p>HABITAT: underground in forests; most species associate with a specific kind of plant</p> <p>FOODS: lives on the sugar supplied by the plant it associates with and on minerals absorbed from the soil</p> <p>EATEN BY: flying squirrels, voles</p> <p>TREEVIA: These fungi are very important due to the mycorrhizal associations they form with trees and other forest plants; these fungi depend upon the organisms that eat them to spread their spores throughout the forest.</p>

	<p>Gilled Mushrooms Fungi</p> <p>TRAITS: fungi with fruiting bodies that consist of a stalk and cap; the underside of the cap is divided by slits and projections called gills</p> <p>HABITAT: soil and rotting logs in forested areas; some kinds also occur in other habitats</p> <p>FOODS: mainly dead plant material and animal wastes</p> <p>EATEN BY: red and flying squirrels, voles, deer, mice, moose, caribou, humans, millipedes, flies</p> <p>TREEVIA: Some of the gilled mushrooms form mycorrhizal associations with certain plants; they receive sugar from the plant and help it obtain nutrients from the soil.</p>
	<p>Bolete Mushrooms Fungi</p> <p>TRAITS: fungi with fruiting bodies that consist of a stalk and cap; the underside of the cap is made up of many tubes; it looks like a dense honeycomb or sponge</p> <p>HABITAT: soil, litter, or rotting logs in forests; some species live in other habitats</p> <p>FOODS: rotting leaves or other plant material, and animal droppings</p> <p>EATEN BY: squirrels, voles, flies, beetles, moose, caribou, and humans</p> <p>TREEVIA: Some of the bolete mushrooms form mycorrhizal associations with certain plants; they receive sugar from the plant and help it obtain nutrients from the soil.</p>
	<p>Shelf Fungi or Polypores Fungi</p> <p>TRAITS: fungi with a fruiting body, conk, which emerges from trees or logs and forms a shelf-like structure; the conks grow and produce spores each year</p> <p>HABITAT: old trees, logs, or other wood</p> <p>FOODS: dead wood</p> <p>EATEN BY: millipedes, and a wide variety of insects</p> <p>TREEVIA: Some species of shelf fungi are parasites on living trees; the hyphae slowly decay the dead heartwood of the tree and may attack living parts of the tree as well; eventually the tree may be weakened and killed.</p>
	<p>Lichens Lichen</p> <p>TRAITS: visible as a crust, or a leaflike structure, or as a flat, hair-like strands, or branched structure depending on the species; crumbles when dry; soft when wet</p> <p>HABITAT: rocks, logs, tree branches, soil</p> <p>FOODS: makes its own food</p> <p>EATEN BY: caribou, voles, springtails</p> <p>TREEVIA: Made up of two separate organisms living together; an algae and a fungi. The algae produces food through photosynthesis while the fungi provides a moist, protective environment to live in.</p>