

## Bison Quiz

### Related educational topics or areas of focus

Planet OzKids activities relate to broad topics or areas of focus which are taught in schools and in home-schooling worldwide, regardless of curriculum differences.

This activity relates to several topics including **English** (reading, writing and comprehension).



### Type of task

Research and comprehension.

### Age group for this activity

This Bison Quiz activity is designed for Year/grade 3 - 4 students (age 8 - 10).

### The Bison

The animal that people call a Buffalo in North America and Canada is really a Bison. Its correct name is American Bison. Bison are the largest mammals in North America. They have a hump, and huge heads and shoulders, and both males and females have short, curved horns.

There are two types of American Bison – the Plains Bison and the Wood Bison.

The Plains Bison is smaller and has a lighter coloured coat. It has thick wool like a cap, between its horns, a thick beard and a mane around its throat.

Both types of bison have a long, shaggy, winter coat which comes off in clumps or patches in spring.





### **The Bison continued**

Bison are ungulates, meaning they have hooves – and they are herbivores, or plant eaters. They graze on prairie grasses and grass-like plants. They eat in the morning and evening, and rest during the day.

Bison can live in hot and cold climates, in rough rocky areas or on flat prairies (grassy plains with no trees). The animals were very important to Native American people, who hunted them for food and used the skins for clothes. They wasted nothing and used all the parts of the animal for different things.

In the 1800s, after Europeans arrived, there was a lot more hunting and the bison became endangered. Today herds are being restocked and the bison is a protected animal.

### **Activity instructions**

Children can be asked to:

1. Read the following information about the Bison on Planet OzKids:

Bison Facts:

<http://www.planetozkids.com/oban/animals/facts-bison.htm>

Bison history:

<http://www.planetozkids.com/oban/animals/bison-history.htm>

Animal Postcard – Bob the Bison:

[http://www.planetozkids.com/oban/animals/stories\\_bison.htm](http://www.planetozkids.com/oban/animals/stories_bison.htm)

2. Read the questions in the Bison Quiz and decide if each statement is True or False.

**The Bison Quiz is on the next page, followed by the answers.**

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## Bison Quiz

Circle 'True' or 'False' for each question:			
1.	During the Ice Ages, sea-beds became dry land in many places.	<b>True</b>	<b>False</b>
2.	The narrow stretch of water between Siberia and Alaska became dry land and was called the Bering Land Bridge.	<b>True</b>	<b>False</b>
3.	The Steppe Bison were much larger than the American Bison.	<b>True</b>	<b>False</b>
4.	About 10,000 years ago Bison herds fed on grasslands between Alaska and northern Mexico.	<b>True</b>	<b>False</b>
5.	Native American people hunted Bison only for their teeth.	<b>True</b>	<b>False</b>
6.	European settlers hunted Bison to sell their meat and hides (to make clothes and rugs).	<b>True</b>	<b>False</b>
7.	By 1889, less than 1000 Bison were left and herds were small.	<b>True</b>	<b>False</b>
8.	Beefalo are produced by cross-breeding Bison with cattle.	<b>True</b>	<b>False</b>
9.	People in North America and Canada often call the Bison "the Buffalo".	<b>True</b>	<b>False</b>
10.	Bison are not the largest mammals in North America.	<b>True</b>	<b>False</b>
11.	There are two types of American Bison – the Wood Bison and the Plains Bison.	<b>True</b>	<b>False</b>
12.	The Bison became endangered in the 1980s after the Japanese arrived.	<b>True</b>	<b>False</b>

**Answers for the Bison Quiz**

1.	During the Ice Ages, sea-beds became dry land in many places.	<b>True</b>	
2.	The narrow stretch of water between Siberia and Alaska became dry land and was called the Bering Land Hollow.		<b>False</b>
3.	The Steppe Bison were much larger than the American Bison.	<b>True</b>	
4.	About 10,000 years ago Bison herds fed on grasslands between Alaska and northern Mexico.	<b>True</b>	
5.	Native American people hunted Bison only for their teeth.		<b>False</b>
6.	European settlers hunted Bison to sell their meat and hides (to make clothes and rugs).	<b>True</b>	
7.	By 1889, less than 1000 Bison were left and herds were small.	<b>True</b>	
8.	Beefalo are produced by cross-breeding Bison with cattle.	<b>True</b>	
9.	People in North America and Canada often call the Bison “the Buffalo”.	<b>True</b>	
10.	Bison are not the largest mammals in North America.		<b>False</b>
11.	There are two types of American Bison – the Wood Bison and the Plains Bison.	<b>True</b>	
12.	The Bison became endangered in the 1980s after the Japanese arrived.		<b>False</b>

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