

Rhyming Riddles Scavenger Hunt for the book

Mother Earth - Boreal Beauty of the Peace Country

1. My Cree name is *maskwa*. In the Beaver language, I'm *sas*. The French call me *ours noir*.

Do you know what I am? (See pages 242-249) _____

2. I have wings, but I'm not a bird. I'm not a butterfly, and I'm not a bee.

My babies are called flying pups, for I am a mammal, you see! What am I? (p. 214)

3. I have legs of eight, my famous trait. I can jump for you! Would you like to take my photo too?

What is the name of our eight-legged, eight-eyed friend? (p. 157)

4. I have hooves, antlers and ears, but I'm not a moose, and I'm not a deer.

My French name is *Wapiti*. I'm calling. Can you hear me? (p.226)

5. These birds call all year long from the trees, cheering our hearts with a "Chickadee-dee."

One has a black cap; the other has brown. What two kinds of birds make this sound?

(p.103-105) _____

6. I am painted orange and yellow; my green leaves rise up below my petals. A botanical painting by Marsha Hayward reveals a flower whose name has three words. Please don't pick me! I'm a rare beauty! What's my name? (p.83)

7. You'll see me in Spring; purple fuzzy flowers I bring. Even in the snow, I will pop out and grow! What kind of flower am I? (p. 56-59 and 84)

8. I am an owl who is active in the day. I come from the land of the midnight sun.

'Twas on the tundra I used to play in the summer; but it's winter, so here I come!

(p.191, 193-195) _____

9. There are three main kingdoms of living things: FLORA refers to plants.

FAUNA includes all wildlife, from grizzly bears to ants. The third kingdom is FUNGI,

but I just don't fit in. I'm complicated; I'm a relationship. Do you know what I am? (p.16)

10. In the Beaver language, my name means “Bush Cat.”
I’m smaller than a cougar but bigger than a house cat.
I was a kitten, but we kittens grow, and develop big paws for walking on snow.
What kind of cool cat am I? (p.234) _____
11. Some of us are grey and some of us are black. We howl, hunt, and hang out as a pack.
How many Grey Wolves can you see camouflaged amongst the coniferous trees?
(p. 236-238) _____
12. I can dance beautifully, but I don’t have legs. How can that be? (p.268-279)
What am I? _____
What does my name mean in Cree? _____
13. If a baby goose is a gosling, is a baby moose a mosling? If not, then what? (p. 218) _____
14. Juicy and sweet, what a treat! White blossoms produce wild berries to eat!
In the Beaver language, my name means “little heart.” What kind of berry am I? (page 44)

15. I am a symbol of promise and hope. My name in the Beaver language means
_____. (p.265, 2nd Edition*)
16. I have eyes of black and yellow; I am a feathery handsome fellow.
Don’t be shocked I look surprised; I am little, with big, curious eyes!
What species of owl am I? (See page 196.)

17. I used to be called a Whiskey Jack, but now they say I’m a Jay.
I’m your national bird, Canada! Do you know my newest name? (p.186)

18. The Peace Country = the Peace River Watershed. Let’s see how big it is. (See pages 259-262.)
The mighty Peace River starts out small in BC, but as it flows, it grows, you see!
Add the Smoky River with the Wapiti... the Notikewin, Wabasca, and their tributaries.
Follow it north like an eagle flying free. Hear the roar of a waterfall as wide as you can see.
What’s the widest waterfall in North America?

*If you have the 1st Edition of *Mother Earth*, you can find the answer at the end of the Scavenger Hunt. You can also find the 2nd Edition Additions on our website (at the bottom of the Videos and Resources page) and print them off to put in your book.

19. I'm wild and prickly, pink, and free, and with my seed pods (p.41) you can make tea.
(p.60-61) What am I? _____
20. I am herbivorous, which means I eat plants. I'm a big quadruped with hooves, not hands.
My French name is *bison des bois*, and I roam free in the Chinchaga.
(p.216-217) _____
21. I'm a short-tailed weasel, and some call me vermin,
But my winter coat is white, and then my name is _____ (p. 209)
22. My name makes me sound like I belong on a horse,
but you'll find me on the ground. I'm a mushroom, of course!
Can you guess my name? _____ (p. 15)
23. I may look like northern lights, but do not be deceived;
I'm an intriguing arc in the sky, and my new name is _____(p.275)
24. We are vegetarian hydro engineers with a pool in our back yard.
The water attracts wildlife like ducks, moose, and deer.
The importance of our work is abundantly clear -
to keep water on the landscape year after year, as a team we work very hard.
What five-fingered friend with a toothy grin is this? (p.212-213)_____
25. I am the antlered ungulate featured on your 25 cent piece.
Rudolf is my relative; don't tease him about his nose, please!
What species am I? (p.229-231) _____
What is an ungulate? (p. 216) _____
How many species of ungulates do we have in the Peace Country? (p.216-232) _____
26. I'm not only beautiful; I'm totally edible from my roots to my top flower.
Some people call me the purple rocket and I have a super power.
When all is lost, and the land is disturbed by fire or by man,
I'll grow from a seed to dance in the wind and start the wonder of life again.
What pioneer species am I? (p. 80-81) _____
27. In the Beaver language, our name literally means "muskeg ears."
We're fruiting bodies of a vital part of the biosphere.
Our mycorrhizal members help trees communicate.*
Some of us are edible and may end up on your plate! (p. 9-15) _____

* See "How Trees Talk to Each Other" Suzanne Simard (TED Talk on YouTube)

28. We live in forests, fens, and bogs. We can grow on a rock or grow on a log.
We're a diverse, big family; some of us make socks for Aspen trees.
Some of us are red, and some of us are green, our superpower is to soak up the rain.
What kind of rootless plants are about
to help protect our land from floods and drought? (p.18-21) _____

How many different species can you find on these pages? _____

29. I'll wake you up at dawn with a "cheerily-cheer-up!" song.
On a summer solstice day, you may wish I'd fly away!

What kind of bird would start singing its exuberant song prior to 4 a.m. on June 21
in the Peace Country? (p. 102) _____

30. I have trouble walking, but I can swim, dive, and fly,
I'm twice the size of a mallard duck, and I can yodel, laugh, and cry
and when my voice echoes across the water on the lake,
on a moonlit night, I may be calling out with longing for a mate.

What kind of water bird am I? (p. 158-159) _____

And where did my name come from? _____

31. The author who created the *Mother Earth* book takes pictures from way up high!
How does she get there? Does she have wings?
Does she know how to fly? (p.128-137, 281)

32. There are over 1,200 photos in the *Mother Earth* book. How many photographers?
Did you look? (See the cover plus pages 142-145.) _____

33. What are the author's two new favourite words? These words are not in the book
because she discovered them after publication, so you'll find the answer below.**

*#15: The Beaver word for rainbow is sãt'ulê', which means "sun rope."
#33. **Umwelt and **biophilia**! I hope I've piqued your curiosity so you'll head out on a word
research discovery adventure! Or you could book me for a *Mother Earth* presentation!
Sharon Krushel 780-625-6324 sharon@motherearthbook.ca