



Strap on your explorer hats, kids! We're off to learn about the American Badger, a fascinating creature with a coat as unique as a fingerprint. This amazing animal is covered in a mix of gray, brown, and white fur, and has a distinctive white stripe running from its nose to its back. Its face is adorned with black patches, and they have sharp claws on their front paws, perfect for digging into the ground. Now, wouldn't it be exciting to know where this digging expert lives and what it eats to fuel its digging adventures?



Keeping the curiosity alive, let's dive into the American Badger's world. These guys love to live in the grasslands and open areas of North America, so they have plenty of space to dig their homes, called burrows. As for their meals, they love a good feast on small rodents, insects, and sometimes fruits and plants. But, wait! Have you ever wondered how the life of an American Badger unfolds from birth?

Let's take a peek into the life cycle of our furry little friend. American Badgers are born blind and helpless in their mother's burrow, but they grow up fast, becoming independent in just a few months. They live alone most of the time, but during the breeding season, you can spot them in pairs. Interesting, right? Now, how about we learn about their relationship with humans and other animals?



Now, this is where things get really exciting! Despite their fierce reputation, American Badgers usually prefer to avoid humans and aren't considered a threat. They are known to share their burrows with other animals like the coyote, in a unique relationship where both benefit from each other's hunting skills. And that, my young explorers, concludes our fun-filled journey into the world of the American Badger, a creature as interesting as it is unique.



Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

- 1) What color is the American Badger's fur?
A. Black and gray
B. Gray, brown, and white
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D. Black and white
- 2) What are their homes called?
A. Burrows
B. Nests
C. Dens
D. Caves
- 3) Where does the American Badger live?
A. In the grasslands and open areas of North America
B. In the deserts of North America
C. In the arctic regions of North America
D. In the forests of North America
- 4) What are the American Badger's front paws perfect for?
A. Climbing trees
B. Digging into the ground
C. Running fast
D. Swimming in the river
- 5) What is the American Badger's favorite food?
A. Fruits and plants
B. Birds and eggs
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D. Small rodents
- 6) What animal do American Badgers share their burrows with?
A. Rabbit
B. Mole
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D. Squirrel
- 7) When are American Badgers independent?
A. Just a few months after being born
B. When they are a few years old
C. After a year of being born
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- 8) What kind of relationship do American Badgers and coyotes have?
A. Coyotes are badgers' predators
B. Both benefit from each other's hunting skills
C. They fight over territory
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- 9) What is unique about the American Badger's fur pattern?
A. It has a white stripe around its neck
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Determine if the statements is something the animal would say (W) or it is not something the animal would say (N).

- 10) "I don't usually like to get close to humans."
- 11) "I grow up slow and stay with my mother for years."
- 12) "Coyotes are my enemies, they often hunt us for food."
- 13) "We are very social creatures, always living in large groups, never alone!"



- 14) "I have sharp front claws; they help me dig into the ground and catch my prey."
- 15) "Did you know, my babies are blind when they're born, but they grow pretty fast!"
- 16) "I dig my burrows not with my claws, but by gnawing at the earth with my teeth!"
- 17) "I enjoy a mostly vegetarian diet."
- 18) "My favorite meal is a juicy piece of fruit."
- 19) "When I'm out hunting, I like to feast on small rodents and insects, but sometimes I have a taste for plants too!"
- 20) "My coat is a solid black, quite similar to my forest friends, the black bears."
- 21) "I live in North America and enjoy wide open spaces."
- 22) "The white stripe on my back glows in the dark, lighting my path when I hunt at night!"

Determine if the statement is a fact or opinion based on the information in the article.

- 23) American Badgers often share their burrows with other animals such as coyotes.
- 24) American Badgers are scary because of their sharp claws.
- 25) American badgers are born blind.
- 26) The way American Badger pups grow up fast, becoming independent in just a few months, is impressive.
- 27) American Badgers have a white stripe running along their back.
- 28) It is surprising that american badgers can run as fast as 30 miles per hour.
- 29) American Badgers dig their homes in the ground.
- 30) American Badgers live in the grasslands and open areas of North America.
- 31) The white stripe on the American Badger's back makes it the coolest looking animal.
- 32) The unique relationship between American Badgers and coyotes, where they share burrows, is fascinating.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- 33) American Badgers will eat small rodents.
- 34) The American Badger is an omnivore.
- 35) American Badgers may share their burrows with other animals.
- 36) American badgers travel in large groups for protection.
- 37) American Badgers are born blind.
- 38) American badgers compete with coyotes for hunting grounds.
- 39) American Badgers are found in Africa and South America.
- 40) Badgers are born with perfect vision.
- 41) American Badgers have a white stripe running from their nose to their back.
- 42) American Badgers prefer to avoid humans.

Determine which choice is the expanded form of the underlined contraction.



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|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 26. _____ | 51. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 27. _____ | 52. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 28. _____ | 53. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 29. _____ | |
| 5. _____ | 30. _____ | |
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| 21. _____ | 46. _____ | |
| 22. _____ | 47. _____ | |
| 23. _____ | 48. _____ | |
| 24. _____ | 49. _____ | |
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Determine which choice is the expanded form of the underlined contraction.

- 43) It's important for badgers to dig burrows.
A. it was
C. it has
B. it is
D. it does
- 44) Badgers can't fly but they can run fast.
A. cannot
C. can
B. could not
D. will not
- 45) American badgers don't live in big groups.
A. does not
C. did not
B. cannot
D. do not
- 46) They're nocturnal and hunt at night.
A. they are
C. they do
B. they were
D. they have
- 47) Badgers aren't friendly with all animals.
A. am not
C. are not
B. is not
D. were not

Determine if the sentence is a declarative(d), exclamatory(e), interrogative(i) or imperative(m).

- 48) American badgers mainly feed on small mammals, such as rodents.
- 49) Are American badgers solitary animals?
- 50) Badgers are nocturnal animals, which means they are most active at night.
- 51) American badgers have a white stripe that runs from their nose to their back.
- 52) Do American badgers eat small animals like mice and gophers?
- 53) Are American badgers mammals?



- | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. <u>B</u> | 26. <u>opinion</u> | 51. <u>declarative</u> |
| 2. <u>A</u> | 27. <u>fact</u> | 52. <u>interrogative</u> |
| 3. <u>A</u> | 28. <u>opinion</u> | 53. <u>interrogative</u> |
| 4. <u>B</u> | 29. <u>fact</u> | |
| 5. <u>D</u> | 30. <u>fact</u> | |
| 6. <u>C</u> | 31. <u>opinion</u> | |
| 7. <u>A</u> | 32. <u>opinion</u> | |
| 8. <u>B</u> | 33. <u>true</u> | |
| 9. <u>C</u> | 34. <u>false</u> | |
| 10. <u>true</u> | 35. <u>true</u> | |
| 11. <u>false</u> | 36. <u>false</u> | |
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| 18. <u>false</u> | 43. <u>B</u> | |
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| 20. <u>false</u> | 45. <u>D</u> | |
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| 22. <u>false</u> | 47. <u>C</u> | |
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