



Imagine a small animal with fluffy fur and a beautiful black and white pattern, and you've got a picture of the hooded skunk! These skunks have a particular characteristic: a 'hood' of fur over their heads, which gives them their name. With a body about the size of a house cat, they also have a long, bushy tail that they can puff up when they feel threatened. They're not just adorable, but they're also fascinating creatures with unique habits and behaviors.

Now that you know what hooded skunks look like, let's explore their home and lifestyle. These skunks prefer to live in warm, dry areas, and they can be found in places from the southern United States all the way to Central America. They are nocturnal, which means they are most active at night, and they spend their days sleeping in dens they dig in the ground or borrow from other animals. As for their diet, they are omnivores, which means they eat both plants and small animals, like insects, lizards, and rodents.



Having learned about their habits and diet, let's understand how hooded skunks interact with others. While they don't have the best reputation with humans because of their smelly spray, they actually play an important role in controlling pest populations by eating insects and small rodents. Other animals, like coyotes and bobcats, might see the hooded skunk as a tasty meal, but they usually steer clear because of the skunk's powerful defensive spray. Even with this defense, hooded skunks still have to watch out for birds of prey, like owls, who don't have a great sense of smell.



Finally, let's delve into what makes hooded skunks distinct from other skunks. While all skunks have the ability to spray a smelly liquid when they feel threatened, the hooded skunk can actually choose not to spray if it decides the threat isn't big enough. Another difference is their 'hood' of fur, which sets them apart from other skunk species that don't have this unique feature. Hooded skunks are truly one-of-a-kind creatures with their distinctive looks, unique behaviors and important role in the ecosystem.



Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

- 1) What part of their body can hooded skunks puff up when they feel threatened?
 - A. Their long, bushy tail
 - B. Their round body
 - C. Their small head
 - D. Their fluffy fur
- 2) When are hooded skunks most active?
 - A. During the day
 - B. In the afternoon
 - C. At night
 - D. At dawn
- 3) Why are hooded skunks important?
 - A. They control pest populations by eating insects and small rodents
 - B. They provide fur for clothing
 - C. They pollinate flowers
 - D. They help in the decomposition of dead matter
- 4) Where do hooded skunks live?
 - A. In tropical rainforests
 - B. In warm, dry areas
 - C. In cold, snowy areas
 - D. Near beaches and oceans
- 5) What makes the hooded skunk unique?
 - A. A long, bushy tail
 - B. A white stripe down their back
 - C. Sharp claws for digging
 - D. A 'hood' of fur over their heads
- 6) Where do hooded skunks sleep during the day?
 - A. In caves they find on mountains
 - B. In dens in the ground
 - C. In nests they build on trees
 - D. In burrows they excavate underwater
- 7) Which bird preys on hooded skunks?
 - A. Buzzards
 - B. Sparrows
 - C. Owls
 - D. Eagles
- 8) What type of diet do hooded skunks follow?
 - A. Insectivorous, eating only insects.
 - B. Herbivorous, eating only plants.
 - C. Carnivorous, eating only meat.
 - D. Omnivorous, eating both plants and small animals.
- 9) Why are hooded skunks not liked by humans?
 - A. Because they eat crops
 - B. Because they are noisy
 - C. Because they can spray a smelly liquid
 - D. Because they carry diseases
- 10) How big can a hooded skunk's body be?
 - A. About the size of a squirrel
 - B. About the size of a dog
 - C. About the size of a house cat
 - D. About the size of a raccoon

Determine if the statements is something the animal would say (W) or it it is not something the animal would say (N).

- 11) "Humans and I are best friends; they absolutely love it when I spray my scent around."



Hooded Skunk

Name: _____

- 12) "While my spray keeps most predators away, I still have to be careful around birds like owls who have a weak sense of smell."
- 13) "I adore cold and moist environments."
- 14) "I don't stand out much, my fur is a pure black."
- 15) "I live in warm, dry areas, from the southern United States all the way down to Central America."
- 16) "I love the daytime. You'll see me running around in the sun, catching my lunch!"
- 17) "We have a special 'hood' of fur over our heads, which is what makes us different from other skunks."
- 18) "I have a pretty black and white pattern and a 'hood' of fur on my head that makes me look awesome!"
- 19) "I have a strict diet of only berries and fruits, I would never eat any small insects."
- 20) "Nobody dares to eat me because of my powerful and stinky spray."
- 21) "At night, while you sleep, we wake up to find our breakfast."

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

- 22) Unlike other skunk species, hooded skunks can choose not to spray if they believe the threat is not severe.
- 23) Hooded skunks, with their big fluffy tails and white "hoods", are the cutest skunks.
- 24) Birds of prey, such as owls, can be a threat to hooded skunks.
- 25) It's amazing that hooded skunks can live in both deserts and forests.
- 26) Hooded skunks are usually active at night.
- 27) The fact that hooded skunks eat both plants and small animals is surprising.
- 28) Hooded skunks can be distinguished by their fur that forms a 'hood' and sets them apart from other skunk species.
- 29) A diet of hooded skunks includes both plants and animals.
- 30) It's amazing how hooded skunks can choose not to spray when they feel threatened.
- 31) The 'hood' of fur on the hooded skunk's head makes it look funny.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- 32) The hooded skunk can choose not to spray when it feels threatened.
- 33) The hooded skunk is most active during the day.
- 34) Coyotes and bobcats tend to avoid hooded skunks.
- 35) Hooded skunks are found only in South America.
- 36) Hooded skunks will eat plants, insects, and small animals.
- 37) Hooded skunks only eat plants.
- 38) Hooded skunks can not spray a liquid to defend themselves.
- 39) Hooded skunks spend their days sleeping in tree branches.
- 40) Hooded skunks live in underground dens.
- 41) Hooded skunks prefer warm areas.

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

- 42) Hooded skunks are solitary animals and prefer to live alone.
- 43) Are hooded skunks friendly towards humans?
- 44) Hooded skunks are nocturnal creatures and are most active at night.
- 45) Hooded skunks have a unique defense mechanism that includes spraying a smelly liquid.



Hooded Skunk

Name: _____

- 46) Do hooded skunks have any predators?
- 47) What colors are hooded skunks?



Hooded Skunk

Name: _____

1. _____ 26. _____
2. _____ 27. _____
3. _____ 28. _____
4. _____ 29. _____
5. _____ 30. _____
6. _____ 31. _____
7. _____ 32. _____
8. _____ 33. _____
9. _____ 34. _____
10. _____ 35. _____
11. _____ 36. _____
12. _____ 37. _____
13. _____ 38. _____
14. _____ 39. _____
15. _____ 40. _____
16. _____ 41. _____
17. _____ 42. _____
18. _____ 43. _____
19. _____ 44. _____
20. _____ 45. _____
21. _____ 46. _____
22. _____ 47. _____
23. _____
24. _____
25. _____



Imagine a small animal with fluffy fur and a beautiful black and white pattern, and you've got a picture of the hooded skunk! These skunks have a particular characteristic: a 'hood' of fur over their heads, which gives them their name. With a body about the size of a house cat, they also have a long, bushy tail that they can puff up when they feel threatened. They're not just adorable, but they're also fascinating creatures with unique habits and behaviors.

Now that you know what hooded skunks look like, let's explore their home and lifestyle. These skunks prefer to live in warm, dry areas, and they can be found in places from the southern United States all the way to Central America. They are nocturnal, which means they are most active at night, and they spend their days sleeping in dens they dig in the ground or borrow from other animals. As for their diet, they are omnivores, which means they eat both plants and small animals, like insects, lizards, and rodents.



Having learned about their habits and diet, let's understand how hooded skunks interact with others. While they don't have the best reputation with humans because of their smelly spray, they actually play an important role in controlling pest populations by eating insects and small rodents. Other animals, like coyotes and bobcats, might see the hooded skunk as a tasty meal, but they usually steer clear because of the skunk's powerful defensive spray. Even with this defense, hooded skunks still have to watch out for birds of prey, like owls, who don't have a great sense of smell.



Finally, let's delve into what makes hooded skunks distinct from other skunks. While all skunks have the ability to spray a smelly liquid when they feel threatened, the hooded skunk can actually choose not to spray if it decides the threat isn't big enough. Another difference is their 'hood' of fur, which sets them apart from other skunk species that don't have this unique feature. Hooded skunks are truly one-of-a-kind creatures with their distinctive looks, unique behaviors and important role in the ecosystem.



Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

- 1) What part of their body can hooded skunks puff up when they feel threatened?
 - A. Their long, bushy tail
 - B. Their round body
 - C. Their small head
 - D. Their fluffy fur
- 2) When are hooded skunks most active?
 - A. During the day
 - B. In the afternoon
 - C. At night
 - D. At dawn
- 3) Why are hooded skunks important?
 - A. They control pest populations by eating insects and small rodents
 - B. They provide fur for clothing
 - C. They pollinate flowers
 - D. They help in the decomposition of dead matter
- 4) Where do hooded skunks live?
 - A. In tropical rainforests
 - B. In warm, dry areas
 - C. In cold, snowy areas
 - D. Near beaches and oceans
- 5) What makes the hooded skunk unique?
 - A. A long, bushy tail
 - B. A white stripe down their back
 - C. Sharp claws for digging
 - D. A 'hood' of fur over their heads
- 6) Where do hooded skunks sleep during the day?
 - A. In caves they find on mountains
 - B. In dens in the ground
 - C. In nests they build on trees
 - D. In burrows they excavate underwater
- 7) Which bird preys on hooded skunks?
 - A. Buzzards
 - B. Sparrows
 - C. Owls
 - D. Eagles
- 8) What type of diet do hooded skunks follow?
 - A. Insectivorous, eating only insects.
 - B. Herbivorous, eating only plants.
 - C. Carnivorous, eating only meat.
 - D. Omnivorous, eating both plants and small animals.
- 9) Why are hooded skunks not liked by humans?
 - A. Because they eat crops
 - B. Because they are noisy
 - C. Because they can spray a smelly liquid
 - D. Because they carry diseases
- 10) How big can a hooded skunk's body be?
 - A. About the size of a squirrel
 - B. About the size of a dog
 - C. About the size of a house cat
 - D. About the size of a raccoon

Determine if the statements is something the animal would say (W) or it it is not something the animal would say (N).

- 11) "Humans and I are best friends; they absolutely love it when I spray my scent around."



- 12) "While my spray keeps most predators away, I still have to be careful around birds like owls who have a weak sense of smell."
- 13) "I adore cold and moist environments."
- 14) "I don't stand out much, my fur is a pure black."
- 15) "I live in warm, dry areas, from the southern United States all the way down to Central America."
- 16) "I love the daytime. You'll see me running around in the sun, catching my lunch!"
- 17) "We have a special 'hood' of fur over our heads, which is what makes us different from other skunks."
- 18) "I have a pretty black and white pattern and a 'hood' of fur on my head that makes me look awesome!"
- 19) "I have a strict diet of only berries and fruits, I would never eat any small insects."
- 20) "Nobody dares to eat me because of my powerful and stinky spray."
- 21) "At night, while you sleep, we wake up to find our breakfast."

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

- 22) Unlike other skunk species, hooded skunks can choose not to spray if they believe the threat is not severe.
- 23) Hooded skunks, with their big fluffy tails and white "hoods", are the cutest skunks.
- 24) Birds of prey, such as owls, can be a threat to hooded skunks.
- 25) It's amazing that hooded skunks can live in both deserts and forests.
- 26) Hooded skunks are usually active at night.
- 27) The fact that hooded skunks eat both plants and small animals is surprising.
- 28) Hooded skunks can be distinguished by their fur that forms a 'hood' and sets them apart from other skunk species.
- 29) A diet of hooded skunks includes both plants and animals.
- 30) It's amazing how hooded skunks can choose not to spray when they feel threatened.
- 31) The 'hood' of fur on the hooded skunk's head makes it look funny.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- 32) The hooded skunk can choose not to spray when it feels threatened.
- 33) The hooded skunk is most active during the day.
- 34) Coyotes and bobcats tend to avoid hooded skunks.
- 35) Hooded skunks are found only in South America.
- 36) Hooded skunks will eat plants, insects, and small animals.
- 37) Hooded skunks only eat plants.
- 38) Hooded skunks can not spray a liquid to defend themselves.
- 39) Hooded skunks spend their days sleeping in tree branches.
- 40) Hooded skunks live in underground dens.
- 41) Hooded skunks prefer warm areas.

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

- 42) Hooded skunks are solitary animals and prefer to live alone.
- 43) Are hooded skunks friendly towards humans?
- 44) Hooded skunks are nocturnal creatures and are most active at night.
- 45) Hooded skunks have a unique defense mechanism that includes spraying a smelly liquid.



Hooded Skunk

Name: **Answer Key**

- 46) Do hooded skunks have any predators?
47) What colors are hooded skunks?



1. **A** 26. **fact**
2. **C** 27. **opinion**
3. **A** 28. **fact**
4. **B** 29. **fact**
5. **D** 30. **opinion**
6. **B** 31. **opinion**
7. **C** 32. **true**
8. **D** 33. **false**
9. **C** 34. **true**
10. **C** 35. **false**
11. **Not** 36. **true**
12. **Would** 37. **false**
13. **Not** 38. **false**
14. **Not** 39. **false**
15. **Would** 40. **true**
16. **Not** 41. **true**
17. **Would** 42. **declarative**
18. **Would** 43. **interrogative**
19. **Not** 44. **declarative**
20. **Not** 45. **declarative**
21. **Would** 46. **interrogative**
22. **fact** 47. **interrogative**
23. **opinion**
24. **fact**
25. **opinion**



Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

- 1) What part of their body can hooded skunks puff up when they feel threatened? (paragraph 1)
A. Their long, bushy tail B.
C. D.
- 2) When are hooded skunks most active? (paragraph 2)
A. During the day B. In the afternoon
C. At night D.
- 3) Why are hooded skunks important? (paragraph 3)
A. They control pest populations by B.
eating insects and small rodents
C. D.
- 4) Where do hooded skunks live? (paragraph 2)
A. In tropical rainforests B. In warm, dry areas
C. D.
- 5) What makes the hooded skunk unique? (paragraph 1)
A. A long, bushy tail B.
C. D. A 'hood' of fur over their heads
- 6) Where do hooded skunks sleep during the day? (paragraph 2)
A. In caves they find on mountains B. In dens in the ground
C. D.
- 7) Which bird preys on hooded skunks? (paragraph 3)
A. Buzzards B.
C. Owls D.
- 8) What type of diet do hooded skunks follow? (paragraph 2)
A. B. Herbivorous, eating only plants.
C. D. Omnivorous, eating both plants
and small animals.
- 9) Why are hooded skunks not liked by humans? (paragraph 3)
A. B. Because they are noisy
C. Because they can spray a smelly D.
liquid
- 10) How big can a hooded skunk's body be? (paragraph 1)
A. About the size of a squirrel B. About the size of a dog
C. About the size of a house cat D.

Determine if the statements is something the animal would say (W) or it it is not something the animal would say (N).

- 11) "Humans and I are best friends; they absolutely love it when I spray my scent around." (paragraph 3)



Hooded Skunk

Name: _____

- 12) "While my spray keeps most predators away, I still have to be careful around birds like owls who have a weak sense of smell." (paragraph 3)