

Conner Museum Quiz

Question	Your Answer
1. How did Bush Pigs most likely get to the island of Madagascar?	Probably transported by people.
2. Why does the Willow Ptarmigan change color in the winter?	It molts into white plumage in winter for better camouflage in the snow.
3. How do swans get lead poisoning?	They pick up lead pellets that settle into mud, instead of the gravel they need to grind food in their gizzards.
4. What is an invasive species?	One that finds its way (or is carried) to a location outside of its native range and thrives so well in its new range that it adversely affects the biota in its new range.
5. What do pangolins eat? Would you be likely to find one in Washington?	Pangolins eat ants. They occur in the wild in Asia and Africa. If you found one in Washington, you would most likely be in a zoo.
6. Which animal on the touch table do you think has the softest fur?	A matter of opinion.
7. What are two animals that scavenge on wolf kills?	The examples in the wolf display are the Raven and Wolverine, but any scavenger within a wolf's range might scavenge on their kills.
8. Find a mammal that digs a burrow and plugs it up before hibernating.	Columbian Ground Squirrel
9. Find a "poisonous" (actually venomous) lizard in the museum.	Gila Monster. In casual usage, venomous animals are often said to be "poisonous" but there is a distinction between "poisonous" and "venomous." Our display says a Gila Monster is "poisonous" (which would mean it would be dangerous to eat), but it is more correct to say it is "venomous" (which means it secretes a toxin for the purpose of causing harm to another animal).
10. What does it mean to be a frugivore? A piscivore?	Frugivore: Eats fruit. Piscivore: Eats fish.
11. What is the alpine zone?	The vegetated zone in mountains where the elevation is too high for trees to grow.
12. What is the difference between horns and antlers?	Horns: Permanent; have a bony core covered by a "horn sheath" of compressed hair. Antlers: Unique to Cervids (i.e., members of the deer family). In most deer, they regrow every year and are shed annually. They usually occur only on males, with the exception of Caribou (called Reindeer in Eurasia).
13. Give an example of how DNA is used in research	Any example from the ancient DNA display, such as the evolutionary relationship between elephants, mammoths, and mastodons. Many other examples can easily be found in a web search.
14. How do California Condors get lead poisoning?	By scavenging carcasses of animals killed with lead ammunition.
15. Which otter species (River Otter or Sea Otter) are you most likely to find in the Puget Sound?	River Otter