

CARIBOU

Annotating Marks
As you read the passage, make the following marks on your text:
➔ Circle powerful words or phrases
➔ Underline words or phrases

Task 3 - Reread & Dig Deeper
Name: _____ Day: _____
Reread the passage Caribou.
Use evidence from the passage to answer the following questions:
Text Evidence Questions:
1. What is the main idea of the passage?

Task 5 - Summarize
Name: _____ Date: _____
Using the organizer from Task 4, write a summary of the passage. The main idea should be stated in your first sentence. Then use the four details to write four supporting sentences. Close your summary by restating the main idea.
A SUMMARY OF CARIBOU

Task 4 - Reread & Respond
Name: _____ Date: _____
Reread the passage Caribou.
Complete the chart below, listing four details supporting the statement.
Statement: _____
Detail: _____

Task 1 - Read & Annotate
Name: _____ Day: _____
As you read through Caribou for the first time, use your annotating marks and write important notes in the margin. Then, answer these questions:
• Circle powerful words or phrases.
• Underline words or phrases you do not understand.
• Place a question mark near something that makes you think of a question.
• Write an exclamation mark near something that surprises you.
• Draw an arrow where you make a personal connection to certain words or ideas.
• Write your important thoughts in the margins.
First Reading Questions:
1. What is this passage mostly about?

2. What is the other name caribou are known by?

3. What food do caribou mainly eat?


4. Give 2 facts about the caribou's antlers:
a. _____
b. _____

Task 2 - VOCABULARY
Day: _____
Reread Caribou a second time. Find four words which are unfamiliar to you and complete the vocabulary diagram below.

DEFINITION	SYNONYM
WORD	WORD
EXAMPLE SENTENCE	EXAMPLE SENTENCE

DEFINITION	SYNONYM
WORD	WORD
EXAMPLE SENTENCE	EXAMPLE SENTENCE

Caribou
You may better know caribou by their other name, reindeer. Although they cannot fly, they do have brown fur and antlers, and are very large. Caribou can be up to nine feet long and weigh up to about 600 pounds. The largest male ever weighed was 980 pounds! Males are larger than females. They can sometimes get up to twice the size of females.
Caribou live in cold habitats, including parts of Russia and the upper parts of North America like Alaska, and the Canadian Rockies. Because they live in such cold areas, they have a type of blood circulation that helps their bodies maintain a constant temperature. They also have two layers of fur to help keep them insulated. Caribou have an undercoat that is woolly, and they have a longer-haired overcoat. Their fur is brown during the summer and it turns gray in the winter to camouflage them in the snow and protect them from their predators.
The most impressive part of the caribou are their antlers. The larger the antlers are, the better. During mating season, the larger males use their antlers to fight other males and compete with them for the female caribou. After mating season is over, the male caribou will shed their antlers and they will grow a new pair for the next summer. Each new rack will be larger than the year before! The antlers can grow to an impressive size. Some antlers can be up to 30 inches wide and 50 inches long. That is the average size of a normal nine-year-old child! Imagine having that on top of your head all day. Some female caribou also have antlers, although they are smaller. Other types of female caribou will not grow antlers.
Surprisingly, caribou are herbivores! They eat leaves and grasses, but they survive mainly off of lichen. Lichen looks like moss and grows on rocks and trees, and is able to grow in even extremely cold places. This way, even when there are not many plants available, caribou still have something to eat. They are also known to eat their own antlers after they shed them for the calcium!
Many times a year, caribou migrate to find new food sources. Some types of caribou travel up to 3,100 miles a year! They typically travel about 12-35 miles a day and can run up to 50 miles per hour. That's fast! They are so quick that when a baby caribou is only a day old, he can already outrun an Olympic sprinter! Caribou can also swim easily and can swim as fast as 6.2 miles an hour. During the spring, caribou will herd together to migrate and form larger groups of 50,000 to 500,000 animals. Imagine trying to outrun that!
Keep your eye out for caribou. They have been seen as close as the northern parts of the United States, so you may just find one. And if you do, you know now some fascinating caribou facts that may impress others around you!



DIFFERENTIATED CLOSE READING UNIT

2 Different Reading Levels

High-Interest Passage!

The **easier** passage has a ■ in the bottom left corner.

The **more difficult** passage has a ▲ in the bottom left corner.

Caribou

You may already know caribou by their other name, reindeer. Although they cannot fly, they do have brown fur and antlers. They are very large animals. Caribou can be up to nine feet long and weigh up to about 600 pounds. The largest male ever weighed was 680 pounds! Males are larger than females. They can sometimes get up to twice the size of females.


Caribou live in cold places. This includes parts of Russia, Alaska, and the Canadian Rockies of North America like Alaska, and the Canadian Rockies. They have a type of blood circulation that helps their bodies stay a constant temperature. They also have two layers of fur to help keep them warm. They have an undercoat that is wooly, and they have a longer-haired overcoat that is brown during the summer and it turns gray in the winter to camouflage them in the snow and protect them from predators.

Caribou have amazing antlers. The larger the antlers, the better. During mating season, the larger males use their antlers to compete with them for the female caribou. After mating season is over, the male caribou will shed their antlers and they will grow a new pair for the next summer. Each new rack will be larger than the year before! The antlers can grow to a huge size. Some antlers can be up to 30 inches wide and 53 inches long. That is the average size of a normal nine year-old child! Imagine having that on top of your head all day. Some female caribou also have antlers, although they are smaller. Other types of female caribou will not grow antlers.

Surprisingly, caribou are herbivores! They eat leaves and grasses, but they survive mainly off of lichen. Lichen looks like moss and grows on rocks and trees, and is able to grow in even extremely cold places. This way, even when there are not many plants available, caribou still have something to eat. They are also known to eat their own antlers after they shed them for the calcium!

Many times a year, caribou migrate to find new food sources. Some types of caribou travel up to 3,100 miles a year! They typically travel about 12-35 miles a day and can run up to 50 miles per hour. That's fast! They are so quick that when a baby caribou is only a day old, he can already outrun an Olympic sprinter! Caribou can also swim easily and can swim as fast as 6.2 miles an hour. During the spring, caribou will herd together to migrate and form larger groups of 50,000 to 500,000 animals. Imagine trying to outrun that!

Keep your eye out for caribou. They have been seen as close as the northern parts of the United States, so you may just find one. And if you do, you now know some cool caribou facts!



Caribou

You may better know caribou by their other name, reindeer. Although they cannot fly, they do have brown fur and antlers, and are very large. Caribou can be up to nine feet long and weigh up to about 600 pounds. The largest male ever weighed was 680 pounds! Males are larger than females. They can sometimes get up to twice the size of females.


Caribou live in cold habitats, including parts of Russia and the upper parts of North America like Alaska, and the Canadian Rockies. Because they live in such cold areas, they have a type of blood circulation that helps their bodies maintain a constant temperature. They also have two layers of fur to help keep them insulated. Caribou have an undercoat that is wooly, and they have a longer-haired overcoat. Their fur is brown during the summer and it turns gray in the winter to camouflage them in the snow and protect them from their predators.

The most impressive part of the caribou are their antlers. The larger the antlers are, the better. During mating season, the larger males use their antlers to fight other males and compete with them for the female caribou. After mating season is over, the male caribou will shed their antlers and they will grow a new pair for the next summer. Each new rack will be larger than the year before! The antlers can grow to an impressive size. Some antlers can be up to 30 inches wide and 53 inches long. That is the average size of a normal nine year-old child! Imagine having that on top of your head all day. Some female caribou also have antlers, although they are smaller. Other types of female caribou will not grow antlers.

Surprisingly, caribou are herbivores! They eat leaves and grasses, but they survive mainly off of lichen. Lichen looks like moss and grows on rocks and trees, and is able to grow in even extremely cold places. This way, even when there are not many plants available, caribou still have something to eat. They are also known to eat their own antlers after they shed them for the calcium!

Many times a year, caribou migrate to find new food sources. Some types of caribou travel up to 3,100 miles a year! They typically travel about 12-35 miles a day and can run up to 50 miles per hour. That's fast! They are so quick that when a baby caribou is only a day old, he can already outrun an Olympic sprinter! Caribou can also swim easily and can swim as fast as 6.2 miles an hour. During the spring, caribou will herd together to migrate and form larger groups of 50,000 to 500,000 animals. Imagine trying to outrun that!

Keep your eye out for caribou. They have been seen as close as the northern parts of the United States, so you may just find one. And if you do, you now know some fascinating caribou facts that may impress others around you!



Reference Chart, Annotating Guide, Close Reading Directions

CLOSE READING STEPS

The following steps are a **suggested sequence** in which you could approach the contents of this packet. This approach will require 3 separate readings of the passage, requiring students to dig deeper with each reading. Each task of the packet is to be completed in one day/lesson. With 5 total tasks per passage, each passage should take one week to complete.



1st Reading: Student reads the passage. As they read, they use their annotation symbols to identify unfamiliar words, questions they have, and parts of the passage that they agree with. Complete **Task 1: Read & Annotate**. This task also includes some basic recall questions.



2nd Reading: Teacher (or partner) rereads the passage a second time while students follow along. Have students complete **Task 2: Vocabulary**. This allows students to demonstrate their understanding of unfamiliar words from the passage, leading to a deeper comprehension of the text.



3rd Reading: Students reread the passage then responds in writing, citing text evidence. Students complete **Task 3: Reread and Dig Deeper**. This page of questions requires students to cite text evidence when answering questions. Additionally, students complete **Task 4: Reread and Respond**. These final tasks use the text evidence to write a supported summary.

Annotating Marks

As you read the passage, make the following marks on the text:



Circle powerful words or phrases.



Underline words or phrases you do not understand.



Place a question mark near something that makes you think of a question.



Write an exclamation mark near something that surprises you.



Draw an arrow where you make a personal connection to certain words or ideas.



Write your important thoughts in the margins.

Wow! The character showed a lot of courage here...

ABOUT THIS PACKET

The first part of this packet includes 5 reading passages and one week's worth of reading activities for each passage. The Close Reading passages included in this packet are each provided at 2 different reading levels, so that you may more easily differentiate your instruction. The informational content of the 2 versions is the same, but the reading levels are different. All the question sheets are the same. This makes it easy for you to provide reading passages on each student's level, but use the same question and activity sheets for the entire class!

NOTE:

The **easier** passage has a ■ in the bottom left corner.

The **more difficult** passage has a ▲ in the bottom left corner.

Each passage with its activities is designed for a 5-day time frame, following this schedule:

Day	Title of Activity	Purpose
1	Task 1: Read and Annotate	Read passage for the first time. Use annotation symbols to annotate. Answer surface level questions.
2	Task 2: Vocabulary	Read passage for the second time. Students choose vocabulary words that are unknown to them and complete the vocabulary activity using those words.
3	Task 3: Reread and Dig Deeper	Read passage a third time. Students answer deeper level questions, citing text evidence to support answers.
4	Task 4: Reread and Respond	Students use the graphic organizer to identify the main idea and supporting details of the passage.
5	Task 5: Summarize	Using the completed graphic organizer from Day 4, students write a summary supporting details for the passage.

The reading levels for each differentiated passage are provided in this chart:

Passage Title	Symbol	Lexile Level
Mozart – Musical Genius	■	720
	▲	940
The History of Little League	■	780
	▲	1,000
The Sweet Story of Honey	■	740
	▲	950
George Washington Carver	■	800
	▲	1,030
The United States Constitution	■	750
	▲	930

5 Days of Close Reading Activities for GREATER Reading Comprehension

Task 1 - Read & Annotate
Name: _____ Day: _____
As you read through *Caribou* for the first time, use your annotating marks and write important notes in the margin.
Then, answer these questions:

- Circle powerful words or phrases.
- Underline words or phrases you do not understand.
- Place a question mark near something that makes you think of a question.
- Write an exclamation mark near something that surprises you.
- Draw an arrow where you make a personal connection to certain words or ideas.
- Write your important thoughts in the margins.

First Reading Questions:

1. What is this passage mostly about?

2. What is the other name caribou are known by?

3. What food do caribou mainly eat?

4. Give 2 facts about the caribou's antlers:
a. _____
b. _____

Task 2 - VOCABULARY
Name: _____ Day: _____
Read *Caribou* a second time. Find four words which are unfamiliar to you and write them in the boxes below.

DEFINITION	SYNONYM
WORD	
EXAMPLE SENTENCE	

Task 3 - Reread & Dig Deeper
Name: _____ Day: _____
Answer the following questions:

Task 4 - Reread & Respond
Name: _____ Day: _____
Write four details supporting the statement.

Task 5 - Summarize
Name: _____ Date: _____
Write a summary of the passage. The main idea is _____
Then use the four details to write four summary by restating the main idea.

THE STORY OF CARIBOU

Caribou are interesting animals with physical characteristics that help them survive the cold, Arctic climate.

Detail 2

Detail 4

NO PREP!
Print and Go!

Answer Keys Provided

Task 3 - Reread & Dig Deeper

CARIBOU ANSWER KEY

Text Evidence Questions: Some answers may vary.

1. What is the main idea of the passage?
Caribou are arctic animals that have interesting physical characteristics that help them survive the cold arctic weather.

2. List three details that support the main idea:
a) Caribou live in cold habitats, including Russia and the Canadian Rockies.
b) They have 2 layers of fur to help keep them insulated.
c) Caribou migrate to find new food sources.

3. Explain how large some caribou's antlers will become.
Antlers can be up to 30 inches wide and 53 inches long.

4. Cite 2 pieces of evidence from the text that show how far caribou migrate.

- a) Some caribou travel up to 3,100 miles a year.
- b) They typically travel 12-35 miles per day.

5. Give 3 characteristics of caribou that help them survive in cold temperatures.

- a) They have a constant layer of fur that helps them stay warm.
- b) They have 2 layers of fur to keep them insulated.
- c) Their undercoat is wooly and the overcoat is long-haired.

6. How fast can a caribou swim?
A caribou can swim as fast as 6.2 miles per hour.

Task 1 - Read & Annotate

CARIBOU ANSWER KEY

- Circle powerful words or phrases.
- Underline words or phrases you do not understand.
- Place a question mark near something that makes you think of a question.
- Write an exclamation mark near something that surprises you.
- Draw an arrow where you make a personal connection to certain words or ideas.
- Write your important thoughts in the margins.

First Reading Questions: Some answers may vary.

1. What is this passage mostly about?
This passage is mostly about the characteristics, habitat, and life of the caribou.

2. What are some ways caribou are known by?
Caribou are also known as reindeer.

3. What food do caribou mainly eat?
Caribou eat leaves and grasses, but mostly eat lichen, which grows on rocks and trees and can survive in cold places.

4. Give 2 facts about the caribou's antlers:
a. The larger males use them to fight other males to compete for the female caribou.
b. The antlers can be up to 30 inches wide and 53 inches long.