



Imagine being on top of a mountain and meeting a creature as white as snow, that's a mountain goat for you! These unique animals have a thick coat of fur that helps them blend in with their snowy surroundings. They have sharp, black horns that curve backward and can grow up to a foot long. Quite impressive, right? But what's even more amazing is their ability to balance on steep, rocky cliffs using their cloven hooves.

Speaking of cliffs, those are actually the favorite hangout spots for mountain goats. These high climbers live in the rocky mountains of North America, from Alaska all the way down to the Rocky Mountains in the United States. They can be found hanging out as high as 13,000 feet up in the mountain, now that's a view! And you won't believe what they eat to survive in such chilly heights - they munch on a variety of plants, grasses, lichens, and even twigs!

Now, munching on twigs might sound strange, but it's all part of the mountain goat's life cycle. In the spring and summer, they graze on the abundant greenery and build up fat reserves for the harsh winter. During the winter, they can live off that stored fat and the less abundant food like twigs and bark. Mountain goats also have a strong sense of community, with females (called nannies) living in herds with their kids, while males (called billies) often prefer to be solo.



Mountain goats may be tough and independent, but they also have a fascinating relationship with other animals and humans. They are usually peaceful, but if threatened, they can use their sharp horns to defend themselves. Humans often admire their climbing abilities and beautiful fur, but it's important to respect their space and keep wildlife wild. So next time you see a picture of a mountain goat, remember how amazing these high-climbing, twig-munching creatures are!





Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

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

12) "You won't believe it, but I can balance on steep cliffs using my hooves."

13) "We mountain goats live in large groups, both males and females."

14) "We mountain goats don't like high places. We prefer flat surfaces."



Mountain Goat

Name: _____

- 15) "Winter is my favorite time of the year, there's plenty of fresh food to eat!"
- 16) "I have a thick coat of white fur that helps me blend in with the snowy mountains."
- 17) "My horns are sharp, black and can grow up to a foot long!"
- 18) "My favorite food is tropical fruits like mangoes and pineapples. They're simply delicious!"
- 19) "Our horns are just for the show. We aren't very good at defending ourselves."
- 20) "We mountain goats love our little green pastures on top of the mountain, we never venture near the rocky cliffs."
- 21) "Even though I'm tough, I try to avoid getting into fights. But if threatened, I can defend myself with my horns."
- 22) "In summer, I eat so much I don't need to eat again until the next summer."
- 23) "I can be found as high as 13,000 feet up in the mountains. Quite a view, huh?"
- 24) "My fur is as black as coal, perfect for blending in with the snow."

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

- 25) Mountain goats eat a variety of plants, grasses, lichens, and twigs.
- 26) Mountain goats are really cool because, unlike other goats, they live in the mountains instead of farms.
- 27) Mountain goats can be found in the mountains of North America.
- 28) Seeing a mountain goat high up on a cliff is more exciting than seeing one in a zoo.
- 29) Mountain goats horns can grow up to a foot long.
- 30) It's incredible how mountain goats can jump and climb on steep cliffs and rocks without falling.
- 31) During winter mountain goats can survive by living off their stored fat.
- 32) Mountain goats can balance on steep cliffs.
- 33) Mountain goats, with their thick coat of fur, are the most beautiful animals in the snow.
- 34) It's sad to watch male mountain goats live alone and not be a part of a herd.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- 35) Mountain goats build up fat reserves during the spring and summer.
- 36) Mountain goats do not have horns.
- 37) Mountain goats are usually peaceful.
- 38) Mountain goats only eat small mammals and birds.
- 39) Mountain goats can be found as high as 13,000 feet up in the mountains.
- 40) Female mountain goats are called 'billies'.
- 41) During the winter mountain goats need to eat every day.
- 42) Mountain goats are only found in Europe.
- 43) Male mountain goats are often solo.
- 44) Mountain goats can be found in the Rocky Mountains.

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

- 45) Mountain goats can live high up in the mountains where other animals cannot survive.
- 46) Why are mountain goats able to live in high altitudes?
- 47) Mountain goats are expert climbers and can scale steep cliffs.
- 48) Mountain goats have long, curved horns.
- 49) How do mountain goats climb steep mountains?



Mountain Goat

Name: _____

50) What do mountain goats eat?



Mountain Goat

Name: _____

1. _____ 26. _____

2. _____ 27. _____

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25. _____ 50. _____



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Mountain Goat

Name: **Answer Key**

50) What do mountain goats eat?



1. **A** 26. **opinion**

2. **B** 27. **fact**

3. **D** 28. **opinion**

4. **D** 29. **fact**

5. **B** 30. **opinion**

6. **B** 31. **fact**

7. **C** 32. **fact**

8. **D** 33. **opinion**

9. **B** 34. **opinion**

10. **A** 35. **true**

11. **B** 36. **false**

12. **Would** 37. **true**

13. **Not** 38. **false**

14. **Not** 39. **true**

15. **Not** 40. **false**

16. **Would** 41. **false**

17. **Would** 42. **false**

18. **Not** 43. **true**

19. **Not** 44. **true**

20. **Not** 45. **declarative**

21. **Would** 46. **interrogative**

22. **Not** 47. **declarative**

23. **Would** 48. **declarative**

24. **Not** 49. **interrogative**

25. **fact** 50. **interrogative**

