



BIGHORNS



BLACK SHEEP OF THE FAMILY

Bighorn Sheep are some of the hardest animals to see in the wild, since they live high in the mountain cliffs. There are 4 kinds of Bighorn Sheep in North America: the Rocky Mountain Bighorn, Dall's Sheep, Desert Bighorn, and Stone Sheep. You can tell them by their large, curved horns.

CAN YOU DISCOVER THE ANSWERS TO THESE QUESTIONS ABOUT BIGHORN SHEEP?

Dall's Sheep will travel for miles to eat the soil at a...

How can you tell if a sheep is a Stone Sheep?

What prickly snack do Desert Bighorn Sheep eat in the summer?

Male sheep battle for mates. How long can a fight between two Rocky Mountain Bighorns last?

What does it sound like when the horns of 2 Desert Bighorn Sheep clash together?

How can you tell a Bighorn Sheep's age?

Draw some rings on this sheep's horns. Don't forget the fourth year ring!



HISTORY

In the late 1800's, Bighorn Sheep were hunted for their horns and meat. They also caught diseases from domestic sheep belonging to ranchers. This caused the Bighorn's population to get very low.

Conservation efforts have helped the sheep bounce back. Bighorns were moved to higher ranges where they would be more protected, and when a herd gets big, conservationists move some of the sheep to a different area to start a new herd.

Hunters who wish to hunt just one Bighorn Sheep give lots of money to wildlife and conservation departments so that they can help all of the sheep recover.

Jerry Mason got one of each of the 4 kinds of sheep. This is a big achievement because sheep tags are rare and sheep are very difficult to hunt. His award is on the wall next to the Stone Sheep.

What is it called?

(hint: it's also a baseball saying)