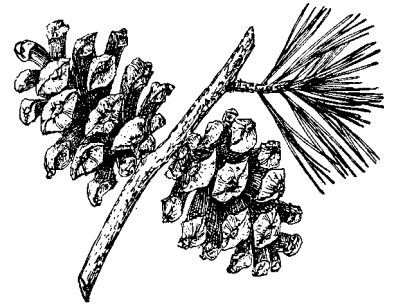


MOUNTAIN WOODLAND

Tell the children: *As we walk through this area, pretend you are on top of a tall mountain like the ones around Tucson. Many animals and plants have their habitat (home) in tall mountains like these. Can you think of any?*

Possible answers:

- mountain lion
- bear
- pine trees
- deer



Ask: *How is the mountain woodland different from the desert?*

Possible answers:

- trees have bigger leaves
- leaves are darker green
- more trees than the desert
- cooler than the desert
- more water in the mountain woodland
- taller trees

MOUNTAIN LION

At the Mountain Lion observation window on the way to the Mountain Woodland from the Earth Sciences Cave, students can get a close-up view of these big cats. Look at their ears, eyes, paws, and teeth.

Ask the children: *Do you think mountain lions are predators (hunters) or prey (hunted)?*

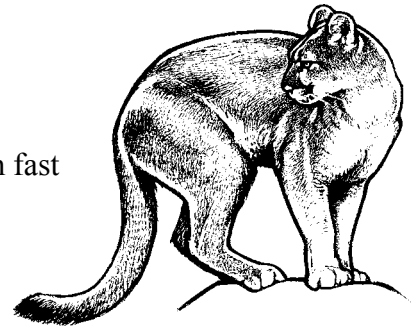
Answers:

- predators
- hunters

Ask: *Why?*

Possible answers:

- sharp claws
- large fangs (canine teeth)
- strong body
- large eyes
- run fast
- eyes face forward for judging distances, running, jumping, catching prey



Ask: *What does a mountain lion eat?*

Possible answers:

- meat eater (carnivore)
- deer
- javelina

BLACK BEAR

Ask the children: *Why do you think black bears have such thick fur?*

Possible answers:

- to keep warm because it is cool in the mountains
- to keep warm in winter

Ask: *Do you think they live in the desert?*

Possible answers:

- no
- it's too hot for them

