# Wolf Hunting WebQuest

## **An Internet WebQuest on Wolf Hunting**

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#### Introduction

Imagine that you and a team of learners are presented with the task of describing an elephant. You are each blindfolded and guided to an elephant. Each of you touches a different part of the animal. Based upon what each of you explored, each will have a different point of view about elephants. Which is the truth? When we study complex topics, there is usually a lot more to a topic than we learn after a quick exploration. In the following WebQuest, you will use the power of teamwork to learn all about Wolf Hunting. Each person on your team will become an expert on some aspect of Wolf Hunting and then you will come together at the end to share and get a better understanding of the topic as a whole.

#### Task

Your team has been assigned a specific role. You will use the links provided as well as other resources (library, etc) to become experts on your roles. You and your team will work together to create a Group Report that presents your team's answer to the Quest(ion). By completing this WebQuest, you should achieve the following goals: 1) develop an interest in the study of Wolf Hunting; 2) use the power of the Internet for advanced exploration; 3) learn information about key aspects of Wolf Hunting; 4) realize that complex topics can be looked at from various perspectives; 5) formulate and support an opinion based on your roles; and 6) work with teammates to determine a combined action plan.

#### **Process**

You will be working together as a group exploring web sites that your teacher has selected. You should start with the pages that are labeled 'Background Information' before dividing into groups. Each group has their own Task to complete and a separate set of web sites to use. There is a task organizer and an evaluation rubric in Background Information to guide your work.

## **Phase 1 - Background Information**

These sites are important because they will provide basic information about the topic as a whole. Everyone should explore these sites before starting your Task.

**Phase 2 - Roles** These roles were chosen because they each define the most important elements of Wolf Hunting. Each of you has been assigned a particular role with links and instructions below. Here are the general instructions for all of you. Please see your specific instructions and questions below. INSTRUCTIONS: 1. Two members from each WebQuest team will explore one of the roles below. 2. Read through the files designated for your group. You can print out pages and underline the parts that you feel are important or cut and paste from the webpage into a word processor. 3. Remember to include the URL of the page you take information from so you can return to it and use it as a citation. 4. Focus what you've learned into one main opinion that answers the Big Quest(ion) or Task.

## **General Wolf Information:**

NATURE | The Wolf That Changed America | Wolf Expert | PBS Wolves, Wolf Pictures, Wolf Facts - National Geographic

# Should wolf hunting be allowed?

#### Conservationists:

<u>International Wolf Center Intermediate Wolf Information</u>
Wolf Predation and Livestock Losses Defenders of Wildlife

## Use these links to answer your questions.

- 1. Why is it important to conserve wolves?
- 2. What happens if there are too many wolves?
- 3. Are wolves dangerous to people? Why or why not?



Questions & Answers - Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks International Wolf Center Intermediate Wolf Information

## Use these links to answer the following questions.

- 1. What problems do wolves cause for farmers?
- 2. How can farmers help prevent wolf attacks?
- 3. What sort of help is there for farmers whose livestock has been attacked?

## **Hunters**:

Q & A - Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
Wolf Hunting Trips :: Manitoba, Canada :: Riverside Lodge

## Use these links to answer the following questions.

- 1. Why would you want to hunt wolves?
- 2. Do you support wolf conservation? Why or why not?
- 3. Do you think hunting is good for the areas in which you hunt? Why or why not?

#### **Government:**

<u>Gray Wolf - Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks</u> The Fear of Wolves: A review of wolf attacks on humans

## Use these links to answer the following questions.

- 1. How do you protect farmers from wolves?
- 2. What benefits to wolves bring to local areas?
- 3. How do we balance conservation and local industry?

**Phase 3 - Reaching Consensus** You have all learned about different parts of Wolf Hunting. Now group members come back to the larger WebQuest team with expertise







gained by searching from one perspective. You must all now complete the Task as a group. Each of you will bring a certain viewpoint to the answer: some of you will agree and others disagree. Use information, pictures, movies, facts, opinions, etc. from the web sites you explored to convince your teammates that your viewpoint is important and should be part of your team's response. Your WebQuest team should write out an answer that everyone on the team can live with.

## Conclusion

So is a wolf soft and furry or vicious and scary? It's easy to come up with an answer that may not be completely right. It's the same for understanding a topic as broad or complex as Wolf Hunting: when you only know part of the picture, you only know part of the picture. Now you all know a lot more. Nice work. You should be proud of yourselves! How can you use what you've learned to see beyond the black and white of a topic and into the grayer areas? What other parts of Wolf Hunting could still be explored? Remember, learning never stops.



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