# FINCH AND THE FOREST FAIRIES ACTIVITY PACKET

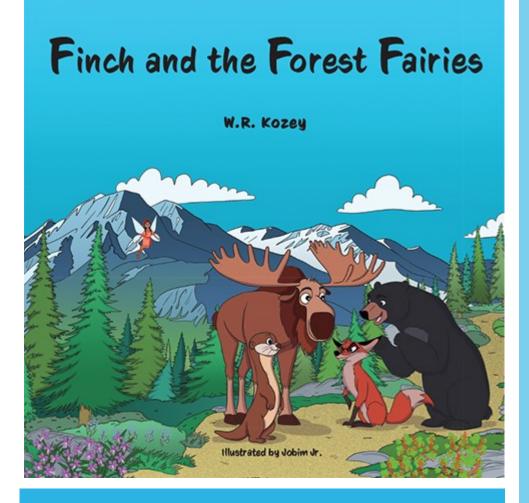




For preschool and elementary grades

Based on the book

Finch and the Forest Fairies



Crosswords
Word Searches
Coloring Pages
Word Scrambles
&

MORE

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# Read the whimsical book that inspired these activities. Based on an Alaskan tall tale.



A tale of friendship, caring for nature and learning valuable lessons.



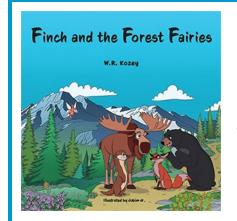
Available at your local book store or order from:

- Amazon
- Barnes and Noble

Deep in the Alaskan wilderness where the mountains meet the sea, there were four animal friends. There was Bruno the Bear, Olive the Otter, Milo the Moose, and Finch the Fox who all journeyed to Alaska to find their fortune panning for gold. The friends were thrilled to find gold nuggets along the river and had great plans for their new found riches. But when Finch allowed

greed to grow in his heart, he attracted the attention of the Alaskan forest fairies who taught him an important lesson he would never forget.

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## Black Bear Crossword Puzzle

You met Bruno the Bear in the book... but how much do you know about **real** black bears?



#### **DOWN:**

- 1. Baby bears are called this.
- Black bears live across the whole North \_\_\_\_\_ Continent.
- 5. Make plenty of \_\_\_\_\_ when hiking in bear country so you
- 6. Black bears have non-retractable .

don't surprise a bear.

- 7. They are attracted to human food and \_\_\_\_\_.
- 8. Black bears are \_\_\_\_ than grizzly bears.

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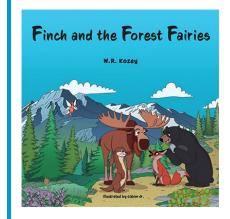
#### **ACROSS:**

- 2. Layers of \_\_\_\_ keep them warm in winter
- 4. They can \_\_\_\_ at least 1.5 miles in freshwater.
- 9. They are \_\_\_\_\_: this means they eat both plants and animals.
- 10. Black bears have a strong sense of \_\_\_\_ and can detect the scent of food up to a mile away.
- 11. They are great \_\_\_ climbers.

#### What to do if you encounter a real black bear...



- **Stay calm**! Talk calmly to the bear to let it know you are a human, not prey. Tell it to back away. Remember that most bears just want to be left alone.
- **Never run** away from a bear. It will chase you and it can run much faster than you, up to 30 miles per hour!
- Make yourself look as large as possible: stand up straight, slowly wave your arms.
- **Slowly back away**, and keep an eye on the bear.



## Black Bear Word Search

Find the hidden words about black bears like Bruno. Be sure to look diagonally!

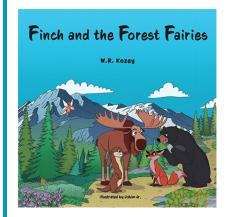


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#### **FUN FACTS**



- Black bear **cubs** weigh less than one pound at birth and gain 20-30 pounds in three months.
- Female black bears are called **sows**, and males are called **boars**.
- A black bear can smell food one mile away with their strong sense of smell.
- Black bears are excellent tree climbers and swimmers.
- They can run fast too... up to 30 miles per hour. Never try to outrun a black bear!



GF03 (2

# Finch's Forest Word Scramble

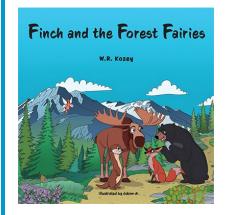
After Finch the Fox was turned into a troll, he grew to love protecting his forest.

See if you can unscramble the names of some common forest plants in Alaska and discover a special message.



(tree)	B B B DALRE (tree)  P E C T O W O E ULINE (flower)  COTTODOWON (flower)  FREN (ground plant)  FERIWEDE (flower)  FREN (a kind of fungus  COMS CANRBREYR (tree)  FINANCE (tree)  A D D DALRE (tree)  COTTODOWON FREN (ground plant)  CH ILCHNE (a kind of fungus (tree)  FREN (tree)  FREN (ground plant)  (a kind of fungus (tree)  FREN (tree)  CANRBREYR (tree)				
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P E C T O W O E  OULINE (COTTODOWON FREN (flower) (tree) (ground plan  F W CH  WILWO FERIWEDE ILCHN (shrub tree) (flower) (a kind of functions)  SOMS CANRBREYR BRCH ground cover) (tasty treat) (tree)	PE	PCERU	BUELE	BLLE	DALRE
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1. Moose are excellent

4. Moose can close these

5. Only \_\_\_ moose grow

8. Moose can \_\_\_ up to 35

miles per hour.

9. These can grow up to

6 feet across.

3. Female moose

underwater.

antlers.

and can even dive up to 20 feet underwater.

# Moose Crossword Puzzle

See how much you know about moose like Milo.

# 1 W 2 O P M M 5 O M W 5 O M W L 7 P 8 9 D D T T T

### ACROSS:

**DOWN:** 

- 2. Moose defend themselves by \_\_\_\_ and kicking with powerful legs.
- 5. Plural form of moose
- 6. Moose have 2 large \_\_\_ on each foot.
- 7. Moose hooves \_\_\_ out wide to help them walk on snow or mud.
- 10. Moose are the world's largest species of \_\_\_\_.
- 11. Male moose
- 12. Moose antlers grow and fall off every \_\_\_\_.

12

F

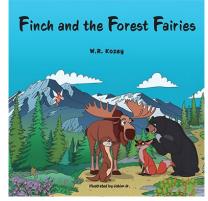
13. Baby moose

#### What to do if you encounter a moose...

• **Stay calm**! Back away from the moose. They might look like gentle giants, but an agitated moose can charge and stomp faster than you expect, especially if it is a mother with a baby.

13

- **Watch** for signs of agitation: ears laid back, hair on the hump standing up, stomping the ground, snorting, head tossing. It's telling you that you are too close.
- If it charges, RUN! Put something like a tree or other object between you and the moose. Once you are far enough away, it will leave you alone.



## Moose Word Search

How many of the words about moose like Milo can you find below?



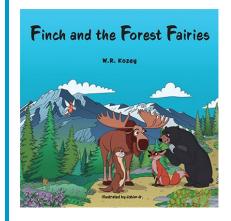
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BELLO	WC		CC	)W		U	W	T	R	Z	K	Ν	M	Ε		HOI	LO\	Ν	MU	JZZLE
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#### **FUN FACTS**

• The **hump** on a moose's back is caused by the massive shoulder muscles needed to hold up its big head and antlers.



- Moose hair is **hollow**, which helps insulate them in the cold winters.
- Moose are able to close their nostrils under water.
- The dangling flap under a male moose's chin is called a dewlap.
- WATCH OUT! If a moose points its ears backward, stomps the ground or raises the hair on its hump, it means it is getting agitated.



## Red Fox Word Search

Finch the Fox was full of ideas in our story... but did you know red foxes really are known for their intelligence and cunning?

for their intelligence and cunning?

See how many fox words you can find below and learn more about foxes.

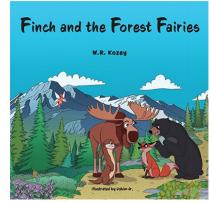


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#### **FUN FACTS ABOUT RED FOXES**

- Male foxes are called **dogs**, females are called **vixen**, and babies are called **kits**.
- Red foxes are known for their reddish coat, white-tipped tail and black "stockings."
- They can have other color variations though, like gold, silver, and black. The cross fox even has a black or brown cross pattern on its back.
- A litter is usually 4-8 kits and can have multiple color variations in the same litter.
- Foxes have excellent hearing and can hear rodents digging far underground.
- They are great jumpers, sometimes jumping 6 feet high!





# River Otter Fun Facts

Olive the Otter was playful and wise. Let's see what we can learn about real life river otters!

Use the word bank to fill in the blanks.

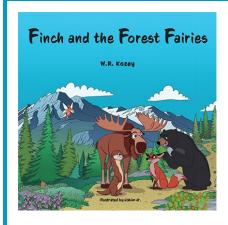


Mustrated	by Jobim Jr.		
American	•	Otters like Olive are North	river otters.
Aquatic Dens	•	They are different from their cousins, come on shore.	otters, who rarely
Ears	•	They have long muscular bodies and a po	owerful
Feet	•	Their hind feet are	
Nostrils	•	River otters are strong	and can swim 6-7
Playful Pups	•	They can close their and they dive.	when
Sea Slide	•	They can dive up to 60 under for over 4 minutes!	water and stay under
Swimmers	•	Fast on land, they can run and	up to 15 mph.
Tail	•	River otters live in cozy near th	e water.
Webbed	•	River otters enjoy all kinds of snails, mussels, frogs and more.	foods like fish,
	•	Baby river otters are called	
	•	Just like Olive, river otters are very	and social.
		What does river otter play time loc	ok like? ====
		<ul> <li>Playing tag, wrestling and dun</li> </ul>	king each other.

Using rocks and sticks for toys.

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Sliding on the mud, ice or snow.



# River Otter Word Search

How many words about river otters like Olive can you find below?

Be sure to look diagonally!



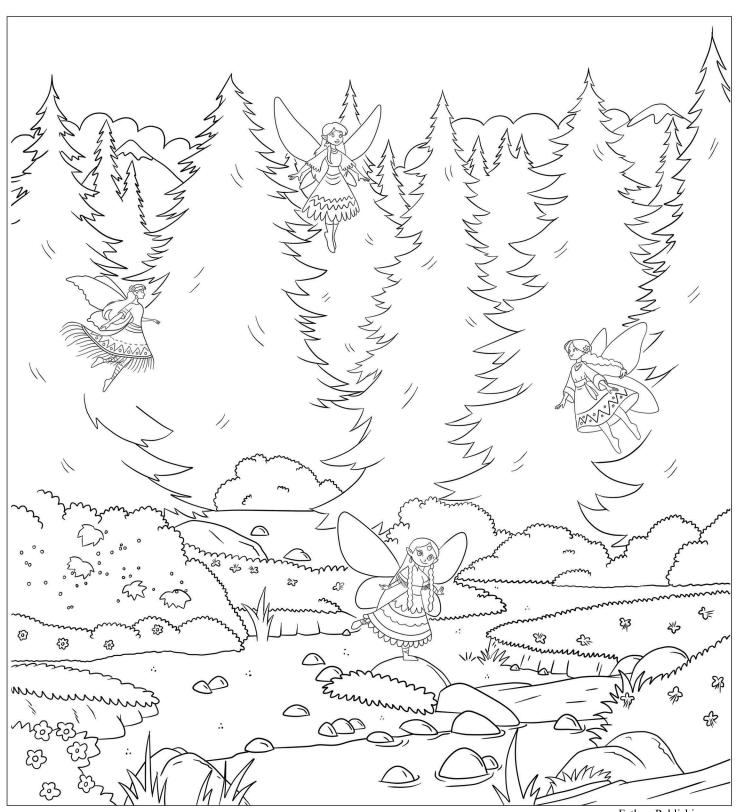
CUTE						Q	Y	G	Н	D						PUP
				В	D	Q	V	R	R	G	I	E				
DIVE		Q	A	M	Α	M	M			N	Н	V	L	G		RIVER
	C	S	Z	S	Q	Y	D	C	T	R	L	K	Ε	P	Υ	
FUR	G	W	V	P	U	P	Y	Ε	Q	F	U	R	Α	L	D	SLIDE
		1	0	K	Y	R	D	F	Q	Н	A	X	G	A		
GRACEFUL		M	V	C	T	J	K	U	S	R	Y	I	Н	Y		SOFT
		D	R	I	V	Ε	R	L	T	T	Α	I	L	F		
MAMMAL		S	В	G	W	Н	1	S	K	Ε	R	S	D	U		SWIM
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PLAYFUL						0	T	T	Ε	R						WHISKERS

#### **Fun Facts About River Otters**

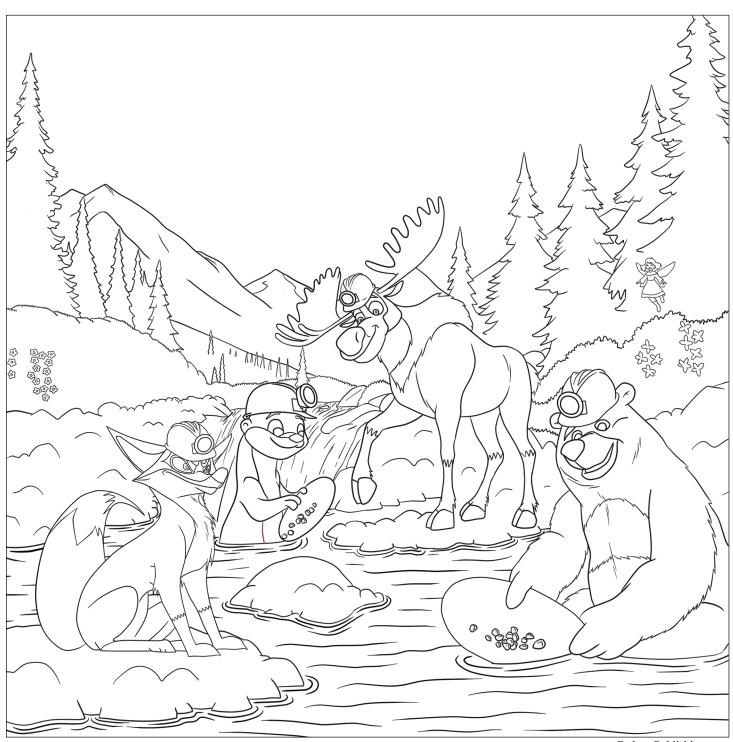
- Baby river otters are called pups.
- River otters are graceful and strong swimmers. They can swim about 6 mph.
- They can dive up to 60 feet under water and stay under for over 4 minutes!
- They can run about as fast as a person on land, but if it is snowy or icy they can move up to 15 mph with a combination of running and sliding.
- Both young and old river otters are very playful. They will play with "toys" like rocks and sticks, play tag, slide in the mud or snow, and wrestle and dunk each other.



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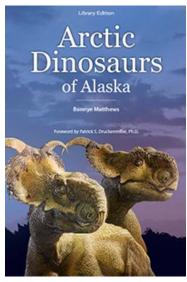
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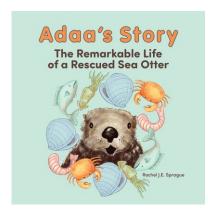
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The true story of a rescued baby sea otter.



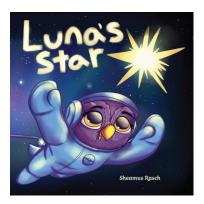
A photographic story of a baby Arctic Tern learning, growing and stretching his wings.



The photographic story of an Arctic ground squirrel's summer in Alaska



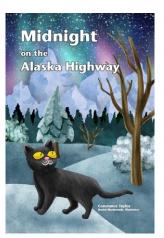
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