

Grizzly Bear



Grizzly Bears in Yellowstone National Park

Grizzly bears are often a cinnamon brown color with white tips on their fur. They sometimes have a light brown band around their bellies. Males are 300 to 700 pounds; females are 200 to 400 pounds and they are about 3½ feet tall at the shoulder. They have thick, almost straight claws, good for digging up roots and insects for food, but not good for climbing. They eat meat as well. Grizzly bears hibernate about five months of the year. They lick their paws at the end of the winter to toughen them up before coming out of the den.

In Yellowstone, grizzly bears are seen in open areas such as meadows and around forests. They can be aggressive, so never feed a bear!



What did you learn about the grizzly bears of Yellowstone?

1. What do grizzly bears use their thick, straight claws for? Are they good for climbing trees?

They use them for digging up food. No, they are not good for climbing.

2. What do grizzly bears do to their paws before they come out of hibernation?

They lick them to toughen up the pads of their paws before they have to walk on them.

3. Is it safe to feed a bear in Yellowstone National Park?

No! Bears may attack people if they think they can take food from them.

