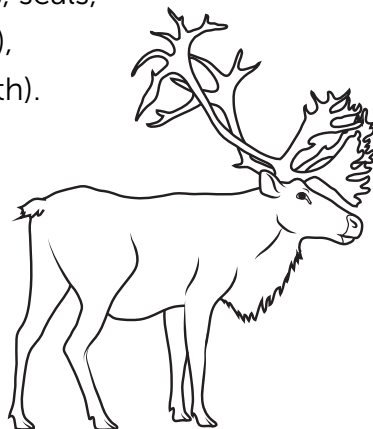
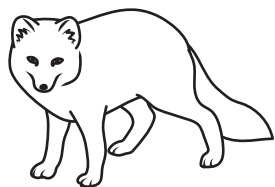


ANSWERS**Welcome to the Tundra**

Read all about the tundra. Check your knowledge by completing the summary below.

About the Tundra:

The tundra is generally a very cold place. The main types of vegetation that grow in the tundra are various lichens, mosses, some grasses, and other small low-lying plants. This is because the ground is frozen for most of the year, so trees and large plants cannot grow. There are not many animals found in the tundra; those that can survive include reindeer (called caribou), musk oxen, arctic fox, lemmings, snowy owls, polar bears (only in the extreme north), arctic hares, seals, penguins (only in the south), and wolves (only in the north).

**Summary:**

The tundra is the coldest biome in the world. It can get as low as -50°C / -58°F and the wind often blows at 30-60 mph. In fact, most of the year, the ground is frozen solid into permafrost. This makes it extremely difficult for large plants and trees to grow. There are a few small, low to the ground plants that can survive such as: moss, lichen, and grasses. Animals and plants that live in the tundra are highly adapted to this extreme environment. Their fur, feathers, or skin is camouflaged to blend in with the land so they are harder to spot. Some examples of land animals that have this adaptation are: caribou, musk oxen, arctic foxes, lemmings, snowy owls, arctic hares, wolves, and polar bears.

Tundra Stats:

- Depending on the location, temperatures in the winter can reach as low as -58°F / -50°C!
- When soil is permanently frozen, it is called permafrost.
- Arctic tundra (in the north) can be very windy, with winds often blowing at 30 to 60 miles per hour!
- Most tundra is similar to the desert in that it receives very little annual precipitation.
- Animals and plants that live here are highly adapted to survive and make efficient use of resources.
- Millions of migratory birds fly to the tundra every summer to nest and feed.

