

## FINDING WORD MEANING

# Context Clues & Text Features #1

### Part 1. Read the passage.

Have you ever seen a wild turkey? Chances are you have since they are native to America and live in every state except Alaska! Given their large size, they're hard to miss. Male turkeys, also known as "Tom Turkeys," can weigh up to 25 pounds. On the contrary, the female "hens" typically weigh less than 15 pounds.

Turkeys are omnivores. Their diet typically includes foods such as: berries, seeds, nuts, insects, frogs, and lizards. They forage for food during the day, usually in the woods near a creek or pond.

While they prey on certain animals during the day, they hide from their predators at night. Where do they seek shelter? Since they are only able to fly short distances, they often fly to low-hanging tree branches to sleep and hide from predators. Foxes, snakes, and coyotes are just a few predators of these wild birds.

As you can see, wild turkeys possess quite a few, interesting characteristics. A popular myth states that Benjamin Franklin wanted the turkey to be the national bird of the United States. This is actually untrue! The real story is that Benjamin Franklin once shared his opinion that a turkey is a courageous bird.



a wild turkey

### Part 2. Reread the passage and underline the words that are listed below.

## Glossary

**native:** an animal or plant found naturally in a given place.

**omnivores:** an animal that lives on a diet of both plant and animal food.

**diet:** the food and drink usually consumed by a person or animal.

**forage:** to search for food or supplies.

**prey:** to hunt, catch, and eat another animal.

**predator:** an animal that hunts other animals for food.

**possess:** to own or have

## Fun Fact

Record one interesting fact about wild turkeys on the lines below.

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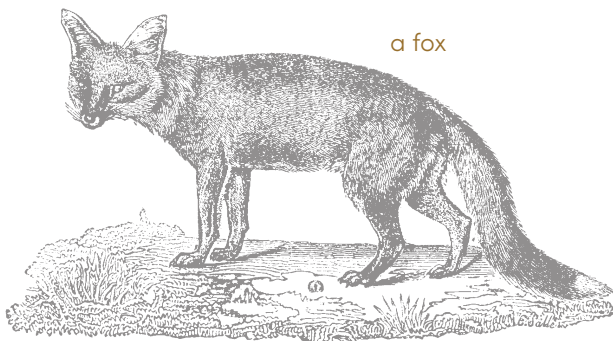
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a fox

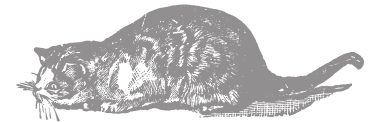
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**Directions:** Choose a word from the word bank below when completing each sentence. Use context clues to determine which word you should select. For support, refer to the glossary on page 1.

### Word Bank

native    omnivore    diet    forage    prey    predator    possess



a cat

- Cats are important \_\_\_\_\_ on farms, where they hunt and kill rodents.
- Lions are \_\_\_\_\_ to Africa, as this geographic region is their natural habitat.
- Mice often \_\_\_\_\_ for their food at night.
- My parents \_\_\_\_\_ the ability to make me feel comforted in times of stress.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ of a newborn baby is typically her mother's milk or formula.
- A pig is classified as an \_\_\_\_\_, as its diet consists of both plants and animals.
- Foxes \_\_\_\_\_ on small animals.

## Your Turn!

Write an interesting fact about one of your favorite creatures.

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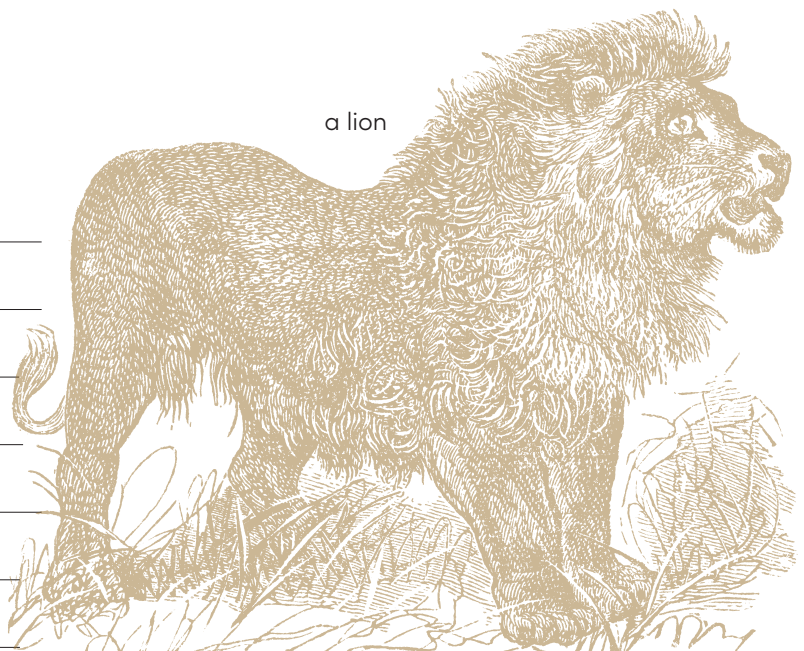
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a lion