



Risky Critters!

Build & Play Your Own Game

Are you a sagacious scientist or a laser-witted layperson? Barrage your brain with a battery of beastly biology questions bound to bolster your blossoming knowledge! Play this game by setting up a game board, see following page, then choose a category and a point value (the more points, the more difficult the question).

Challenge a partner to play!

Points and Questions

Category: Birds

- 10 I am our national symbol. My recovery has been so successful that I have been downlisted from 'endangered' to 'threatened.' What am I?
- 20 I am the fastest bird in the world. I can dive at 200 miles per hour! What am I?
- 30 I'm a large white, long-necked bird that was down to 20 left in 1941. Today there are about 300 of us because of the help we get from people who care. I like to dance and migrate long distances. What am I?
- 40 I'm the largest North American bird. I weigh 25 lbs and look like a vulture with my 9.5 foot wing span. There are fewer than two dozen of me in the wild, but biologists are raising more of us in captivity. What am I?
- 50 I have a huge beak that holds lots of fish, and I love to dive out of the sky for them. I've been removed from the endangered species list because I've recovered. What am I?

Category: Mammals

- 10 I weigh about 1200 lbs and swim in Florida's warm waters. Early sailors mistook me for a mermaid, but close-up I look like a walrus without tusks. What am I?

- 20 I am a big predatory cat that lives in the Florida Everglades. There are only about 50 of us left. What am I?
- 30 I travel in packs and have recently returned to Yellowstone National Park. I'm usually gray, but can be brown, black, white, or a combination of these colors. What am I?
- 40 Poachers kill this huge striped cat for its body parts. The bones are ground up and dried and used for medicines in Asia. Claws are used in jewelry. Fewer than 5,000 remain worldwide. What is it?
- 50 Black, white, Indian or greater one-horned, Javan and Sumatran. Poachers kill me for my horn, which is carved into dagger handles. Less than 12,000 of us huge, nearsighted herbivores are left. What am I?

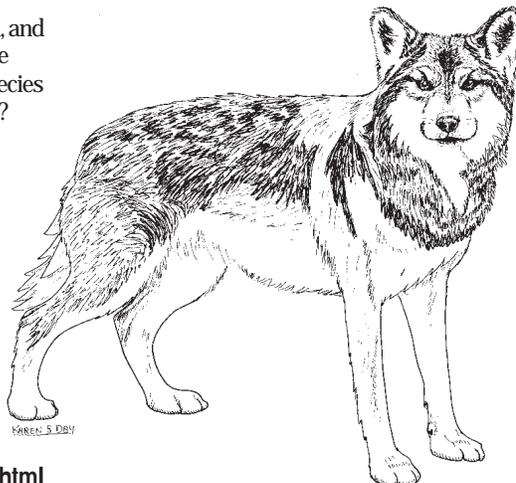
Category: Crawl, Hop, Swim, and Grow

- 10 This large reptile was nearly wiped out by trade in its valuable skin, but has recovered and was taken off the endangered species list. What is it?
- 20 I am slow-moving and I live in the desert. I can live to be more than 100 years old. I carry my shell with me, and like to

- live underground where it's cooler. What am I?
- 30 These amphibians have declined globally to the point where biologists are concerned about ozone depletion in the atmosphere. What are they?
- 40 Inflated heelsplitter, Arkansas fatmucket, speckled pocketbook, fine-rayed pigtoe. What are they?
- 50 What do more than 457 animals and 668 plants have in common?

Category: Endangered! Recovered!

- 10 If this happens, a species will be gone forever. What is this word?
- 20 What is the law that protects plants and animals that are in danger of disappearing forever?
- 30 What word means "any species which is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant part of its range"?
- 40 What is the ultimate goal of the Endangered Species Act?
- 50 What do habitat loss, introduced species, pollution, population growth, and over-consumption of resources do to fish, wildlife and plants?



endangered gray wolf (Canis lupus)
By Karen Day Boylan



Risky Critters!

Answers and Directions

How to build your own "Risky Critters!" gameboard

1. Write out the question on top half of a sheet of paper. Write answers on bottom half of the sheet. Fold in half.

Tape folded question/answer sheet to foam core board.

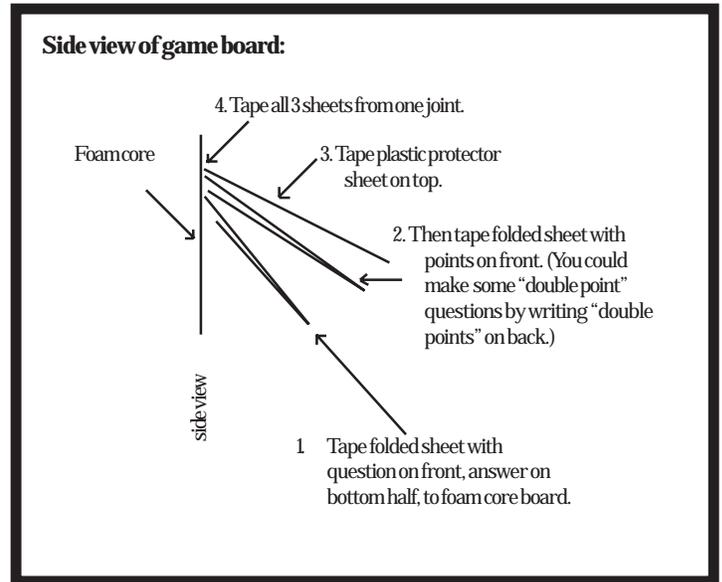
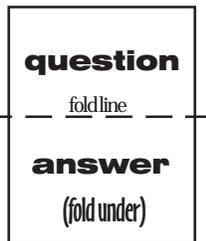
2. Write point value of question on top half of another piece of paper. Fold in half.

Tape folded point value sheet above question/answer sheet. (You could make some "double point" questions by writing "double points" on bottom half of point value sheet.)

3. If using in bad weather, tape plastic protector sheet above that (transparencies work well).

4. Arrange in same pattern as the game board layout (next page).

7. Have fun!



Materials List

40 sheets of paper (8.5" x 11")

10 transparencies/protector sheets (8.5" x 11", cut in half)

1 poster size foam core board (20" x 40")

Tape

Questions/Answers

Points and Answers

Category: Birds

- 10 bald eagle.
- 20 peregrine falcon.
- 30 whooping crane.
- 40 California condor.
- 50 brown pelican.

Category: Crawl, Hop, Swim & Grow

- 10 alligator.
- 20 desert tortoise.
- 30 frogs.
- 40 endangered and threatened mussels.
- 50 This is the number of species are on the U.S. List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants (as of 12/31/97).

Category: Mammals

- 10 Florida manatee.
- 20 Florida panther.
- 30 gray wolf.
- 40 tiger.
- 50 rhinoceros.

Category: Endangered! Recovered!

- 10 extinction.
- 20 The Endangered Species Act.
- 30 endangered.
- 40 recovery.
- 50 They cause species to become endangered.



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

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Game Board

Endangered! Recovered!	10	20	30	40	50
Crawl, Hop, Swim & Grow	10	20	30	40	50
Mammals	10	20	30	40	50
Birds	10	20	30	40	50