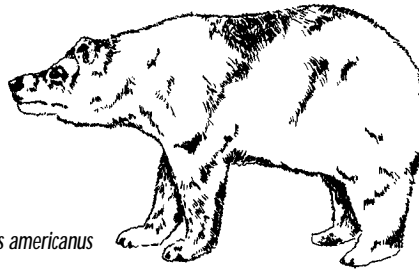


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BLACK BEAR



SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Ursus americanus*

The most widespread and numerous bear in North America, they inhabit the continent's forested areas and meadows that provide them with numerous berries and other desirable foods. They are most abundant in hardwood forests of the East and in the coniferous forests of the Pacific Northwest.



STATUS: Population estimated at around 600,000. They are in jeopardy because of the trade for their body parts in the Orient.



DIET IN THE WILD: Berries, acorns, honey, grass, herbs, animal carcasses, dead fish, and insects.

ZOO DIET: Omnivore pellets, Western Plateau, carrots, apples.



FUN FACTS: Black bears come in many colors, including black, white, brown, a reddish cinnamon color, even a bluish color. Adults are 4 1/2 to 6 feet long and can weigh from 125 pounds to more than 600 pounds.