

REINDEER



Every year at Christmas, you hear about Rudolph, the reindeer with the red, shiny nose. All the other reindeer laughed at him, but not Santa Claus. He found Rudolph's red nose very convenient for leading his sleigh in the dark. This is a legend, of course, but reindeer are real, and not only at Christmas. They belong to the deer family and have large antlers. Reindeer live in North America, Northern Europe and Northern Asia. In summer they live in the tundra, a landscape without trees, and in winter in coniferous forests, the taiga. They eat moss and grass. They live in large groups (packs) that can have up to 10000 animals.

Reindeer grow up to 1.10 tall and can weigh up to 300 kg. They live for about 15 years. They can run up to 80 km/hour. They have to do so in order to flee from their enemies, the bears and wolves.

Many people keep reindeer, as they can give a good milk and meat, pull sleds and carry light loads.

Answer the questions

1. Why did the other reindeer laugh at Rudolph?

2. Does Rudolph really exist?

3. Where do the reindeer live?

4. Do they prefer the cold or the warmth?

5. How old do reindeer get?

6. Do they eat meat?

7. How big can they get?

8. Why do many people keep reindeer?

9. Who are the enemies of reindeer?

10. Have you seen a reindeer yet? Where?