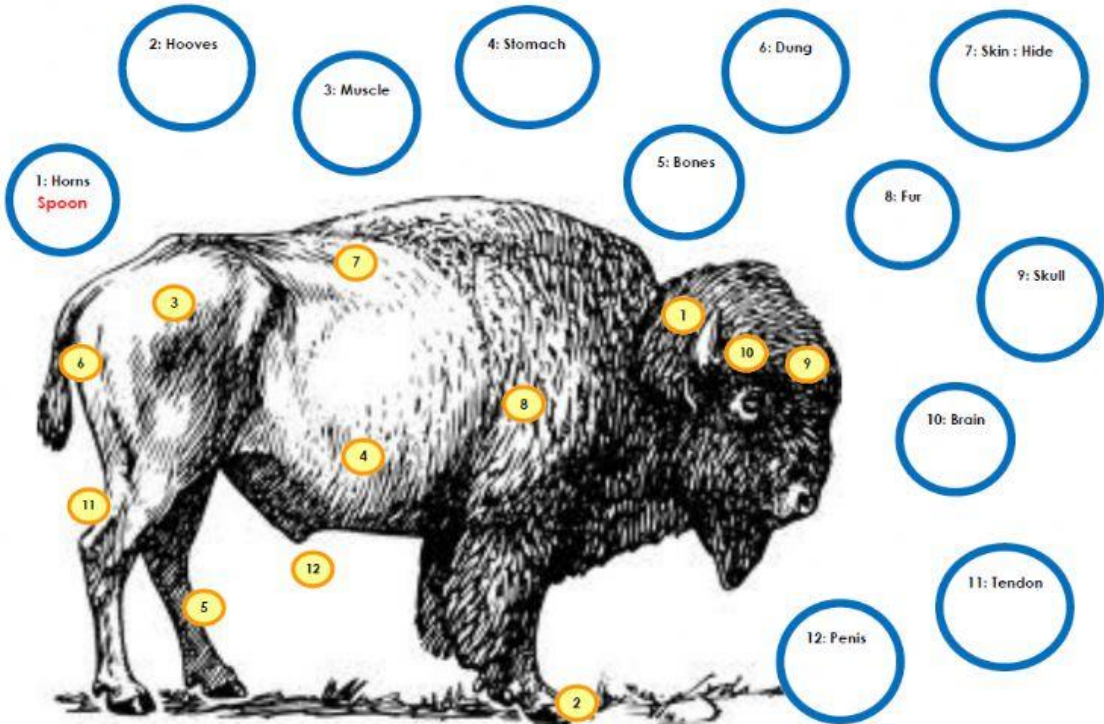


# The North American Bison: importance and uses.

**Discover:** uses of the North American bison    **Explore:** the concept resourcefulness and waste    **Skill:** creative thinking and categorization.

The buffalo or the bison are the largest animal living on the plains. They were once plentiful with an estimated fifty million of them living in large herds. They were the most important animal for the Sioux tribes who both worshipped it and hunted it. To follow the bison the Sioux had to be nomadic and able to move quickly. To do this the tribes used tent like houses called tipis which were simple, light and easy to set up and take down. It is believed an entire tribe could be ready to move within thirty days. Once a bison had been killed every part of it was used, even its bones and nothing was wasted. In short the bison was like a walking larder. Before butchering the animal the natives would perform a ceremony to show respect to the bison and thank the animal for giving the tribe life.



| Bison Uses Summary |  |
|--------------------|--|
| Food               |  |
|                    |  |
|                    |  |
| Houses / Shelter   |  |
|                    |  |
|                    |  |
| Clothes            |  |
|                    |  |
|                    |  |
| Tools / Weapons    |  |
|                    |  |
|                    |  |
| Ceremonies         |  |
|                    |  |
|                    |  |