



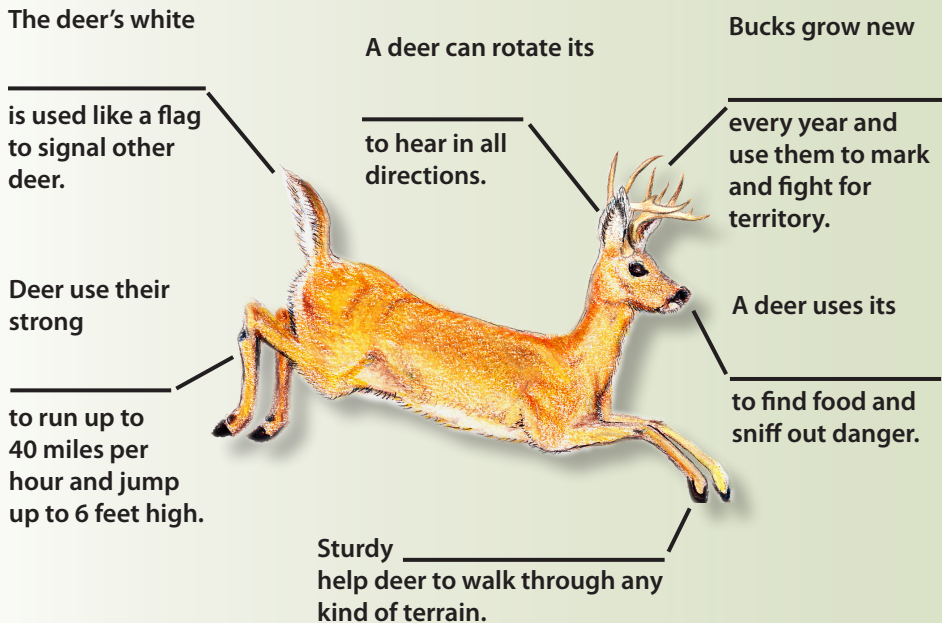
White-tailed Wonders



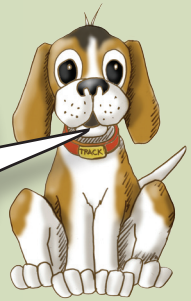
White-tailed deer are medium-sized mammals that can be found throughout most of North America. They are named for the white underside of their tails, which they raise like a flag when they are alarmed. Deer have a reddish-brown coat in the spring and summer that turns to a grey-brown throughout the fall and winter. Baby deer, or **fawns**, have spots that help them blend with their surroundings. A male deer is called a **buck**. A female deer is called a **doe**.



Deer have amazing adaptations that help them survive in various environments. Use the following words to label the parts of the deer below: Ears, nose, antlers, legs, hooves, tail.



Winter is a great time to look for white-tailed deer in fields and forests. Use the activities below to learn about these common but shy animals, and look for signs of deer on your next hike!



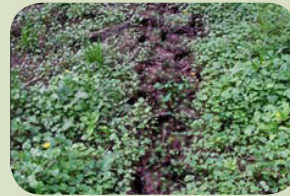
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Look for the following signs of deer along the trail:



Tracks

A deer track has two toes that make an upside-down heart shape. The narrow end of the track points to the direction the deer was going.



Trails

Deer leave trails as they wander through fields and forests. Their paths are usually 6 inches to two feet wide and can be spotted in tall grass and snow.



Beds

A deer bed is a place where deer like to rest. Look for an oval depression in the ground where leaves, grass or snow are matted down.



Antler Rubbings

Bucks rub their antlers against trees to shed the "velvet" or skin off and to mark territory. Look near the base of trees for areas where the bark is peeled away.



Scat

Deer poop, or scat, is found in clusters. A deer scat pellet has a dimple on one end and a point on the opposite end.