

Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore: ANIMALS

A surprising array of animal species can be found within the Lakeshore including amphibians, birds, fish, mammals, mollusks, and reptiles. Use the links provided to help you answer the following questions and learn more about the wildlife of Sleeping Bear.

Link: <http://www.nps.gov/slbe/naturescience/amphibians.htm>

1. How many varieties of salamanders can be found within the Lakeshore?

Link: <http://www.nps.gov/slbe/naturescience/birds.htm>

2. Name a bird species whose numbers are declining elsewhere, but is readily found in grassland meadows within the Lakeshore.

Link: <http://www.nps.gov/slbe/naturescience/pipingplover.htm>

3. Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore includes some of the few nesting sites of the *piping plover*, an endangered shorebird. How many nesting pairs are there in the entire Great Lakes area?

Link: <http://www.nps.gov/slbe/naturescience/fish.htm>

4. What are alewives, and how did they get into Lake Michigan?

5. What species were introduced into the lake to help reduce alewife numbers?

Link: <http://www.nps.gov/slbe/naturescience/mammals.htm>

6. The activities of which mammal become evident when the snow melts each spring?

7. Name a species of mammal that has *benefitted* from human activity within the park.

Link: <http://www.nps.gov/slbe/naturescience/whitetaildeer.htm>

8. What kinds of problems did deer create on North Manitou Island?

Link: <http://www.nps.gov/slbe/naturescience/mollusks.htm>

9. How many known native species of mollusks are there in North America, and how many are considered endangered, threatened, or of special concern?

10. What are some reasons that fresh water clam populations are declining?

Link: <http://www.nps.gov/slbe/naturescience/reptiles.htm>

11. Why are so few reptile species found on the islands ?

12. How many of the reptile species found within the Lakeshore are poisonous?

13. OPINION: Based on what you've learned in this activity, write a brief paragraph describing how ANIMALS are protected and preserved by Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore.
