



# kartrite FIELD GUIDE



# GROUND ANIMALS



## WOOD FROG

lifespan: 3 years

### FUN FACTS:

- you can recognize a group of wood frogs because they sound like ducks
- it takes 2 months for a wood frog tadpole to become a frog

## AMERICAN TOAD

lifespan: 10-15 years

### FUN FACTS:

- one american toad can eat up to 1,000 insects everyday
- you will not develop warts if you touch a toad



## RING-NECKED SNAKE

lifespan: up to 2 years in the wild, 6 years in captivity

### FUN FACTS:

- they are harmless to humans
- they are only 10-15 inches in length



## COMMON GARTER SNAKE

lifespan: 2 years in the wild, 6-10 years in captivity

### FUN FACTS:

- there are toxins in their venom, but they are harmless to humans
- they can give birth to almost 100 babies at once



## WILD TURKEY

lifespan: 3-4 years

### FUN FACTS:

- a turkey has between 5,000 and 6,000 feathers covering its body
- wild turkeys roost overnight in trees
- turkeys can fly up to speeds of 55mph and run up to 25mph



### PAINTED TURTLE

lifespan: up to 40 years in the wild, but not as long in captivity

#### FUN FACTS:

- turtles shed their shell as they are growing; their skin resembles a burnt leaf
- a group of turtles is called a "bale of turtles"



### SNAPPING TURTLE

lifespan: 47 years

#### FUN FACTS:

- all snapping turtles have very powerful bites... observe them from afar
- they can weigh up to 600 pounds



### WHITE TAILED DEER

lifespan: 6-14 years

#### FUN FACTS:

- only male deer grow antlers, which are shed each year
- a young deer is called a fawn. an adult male deer is called a buck. the female is called a doe



### YELLOW SPOTTED SALAMANDER

lifespan: 20 years

#### FUN FACTS:

- egg masses can contain up to 250 eggs
- yellow spotted salamanders make their homes near ponds and vernal pools

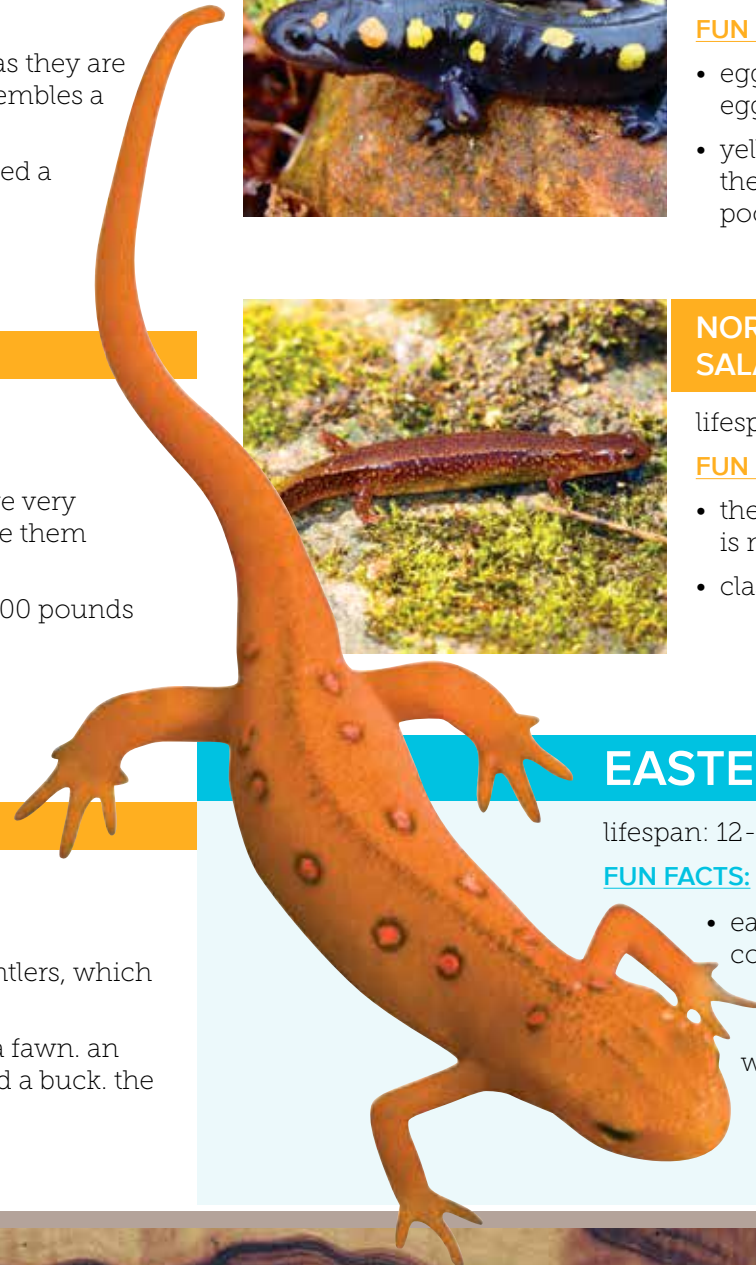


### NORTHERN TWO-LINED SALAMANDER

lifespan: 9 years

#### FUN FACTS:

- the northern two-lined salamander is mainly nocturnal
- classified as a lungless salamander



### EASTERN NEWT

lifespan: 12-15 years

#### FUN FACTS:

- eastern newts are actually a common aquarium pet
- they have poison under their skin which glows to warn predators

# BIRDS



## RED-TAILED HAWK

lifespan: 12-28 years

### FUN FACTS:

- they are monogamous and stay with the same partner for years
- hawks can't move their eyes, so they have to move their heads



## WILLOW FLYCATCHER

lifespan: 3-4 years

### FUN FACTS:

- they are the most common bird at the kartrite
- willow flycatchers are almost impossible to tell apart in the field, so biologists use their songs to distinguish between them



## CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER

lifespan: 7 years

### FUN FACTS:

- the chestnut-sided warbler sings two basic song types: one is accented at the end (the pleased-to-MEETCHA song), and the other is not
- insects make up over 90% of their diet, berries are the other 10%

## INDIGO BUNTING

lifespan: 2-3 years

### FUN FACTS:

- the indigo bunting communicates through vocalization and visual cues
- the male is a vibrant blue in the summer and a brown color during the winter months, while the female is brown year-round



## EASTERN TOWHEE

lifespan: 9 years

### FUN FACTS:

- these birds have white or red eyes
- a group of towhees are collectively known as a "tangle" and a "teapot" of towhees

# INSECTS



## EASTERN TIGER SWALLOWTAIL

lifespan: 1 month

### FUN FACTS:

- eastern tiger swallowtail spreads its wings while resting
- virginia has labeled it as their official state insect



## BLUE DASHER

lifespan: 6 months

### FUN FACTS:

- dragonflies are one of the first insects to inhabit this planet
- dragonflies are aggressive predators that can regularly eat 10% of their body weight



Cicada after molt



## CICADA

lifespan: 5-6 weeks once they emerge from underground

### FUN FACTS:

- the name "cicada" means "tree cricket" in latin
- some cicada species only emerge every 13 and 17 years
- cicadas are the loudest insect and can be heard a quarter-mile away



## PAINTED LADY BUTTERFLIES

lifespan: 1 year

### FUN FACTS:

- the painted lady is the most widely distributed butterfly in the world
- these medium-sized butterflies can cover up to 100 miles per day during their migration

## MONARCH BUTTERFLY

lifespan: 2-6 weeks during summer breeding season

### FUN FACTS:

- monarchs flap their wings about 5 to 12 times a second, which is about 300 to 720 times a minute
- adult monarchs make massive migrations from august-october, flying up to 3,000 miles south to hibernate along the california coast and in central mexico





## LUNA MOTH

lifespan: 1 week

### FUN FACTS:

- adult luna moths don't have mouths and do not feed during their short lives
- a luna moth's main predator are bats



## KATYDID

lifespan: 1 year

### FUN FACTS:

- their name comes from how their song sounds: "katy did, katy didn't"
- their ears' tympana (hearing organs) are on their front legs

## ASIAN LADYBUG

lifespan: 1-3 months

### FUN FACTS:

- a single lady beetle may eat as many as 5,000 aphids in its lifetime
- over 450 species of lady beetles are found in north america



## RED-SPOTTED PURPLE BUTTERFLY

lifespan: 1 year

### FUN FACTS:

- can fly 12 miles per hour
- taste from their feet
- rarely feed on nectar from flowers, but rather consume fermenting fruit, dung and tree sap
- often seen in large groups drinking from mud puddles
- also known as "white admiral"



## TWO-STRIPED GRASSHOPPER

lifespan: 2 years

### FUN FACTS:

- grasshoppers have 5 eyes
- most grasshoppers make noises using their wings and legs like crickets

# ARACHNIDS



## FLEA JUMPING SPIDER

lifespan: 1 year

### FUN FACTS:

- they mimic other insects
- they don't hunt using webs because of their jumping ability
- all jumping spiders have four pairs of eyes
- they propel themselves by suddenly changing the blood flow in their body
- they have the ability to leap up to 50 times their own body length



## GOLDENROD CRAB SPIDER

lifespan: 6 years

### FUN FACTS:

- crab spiders are "sit and wait" predators that do not use webs
- females guard their eggs until they hatch



## YELLOW GARDEN SPIDER

lifespan: 1 year

### FUN FACTS:

- although the bite of this spider isn't venomous, it will cause discomfort like a bee sting



## WOLF SPIDER

lifespan: 6 years

### FUN FACTS:

- they do not spin webs, instead they chase and pounce on their insect prey
- wolf spiders have eight eyes



## MARBLLED ORB WEAVER

lifespan: 12 months

### FUN FACTS:

- they are also known as pumpkin spiders because of their round, orange bellies
- females are twice the size of males

# TREES AND PLANTS



## EASTERN WHITE PINE

lifespan: 200 years

### FUN FACTS:

- white pine needles contain five times more vitamin c than a lemon
- it is the state tree of maine and michigan and the providential tree of ontario, canada



## NORWAY SPRUCE

lifespan: 220 years

### FUN FACTS:

- the christmas tree at rockefeller center is usually a norway spruce
- the oldest living tree is a norway spruce named old tjikko. it is 9,550 years old



## EASTERN JUNIPER

lifespan: 100-300 years

### FUN FACTS:

- juniper berries are most famous for flavoring gin and have also been recently used to flavor liquors and sauces
- its aromatic wood is used for furniture, paneling, fence posts and pencils

## STAGHORN SUMAC

lifespan: 30-50 years

### FUN FACTS:

- dried, ground fruit of sumac is used as a lemony-flavored spice that is especially popular in middle-eastern cuisine
- sumac is found in some perfumes and potpourri







## BLUE FLAG IRIS

lifespan: 3 weeks

### FUN FACTS:

- powdered iris root smells like violets and can be found in some perfumes and potpourri
- the roots and rhizomes of irises are extremely poisonous to humans and animals
- the iris is the birth month flower of february, and the 25th wedding anniversary flower
- the "fleur de lis" is a graphic representation of the iris



## POISON IVY

lifespan: 2 years

### FUN FACTS:

- allergic reaction typically lasts 5-12 days
- after you wash the oils off of your skin, the rash is no longer contagious



## BLUE VERVAIN

lifespan: 1- 1 ½ months

### FUN FACTS:

- has anti-inflammatory, antibacterial, antispasmodic, and analgesic (pain-relieving) properties
- it is named after a medieval pole weapon



## STRIPED MAPLE TREE

lifespan: 300 years

### FUN FACTS:

- also known as a goosefoot maple because the leaf is shaped roughly like the foot of a goose
- the bark is useful as a tea that has been historically used to treat a variety of ailments



## SUGAR MAPLE

lifespan: 300- 400 years

### FUN FACTS:

- maple syrup is made from the sap
- it takes about 40 gallons of sap to make one gallon of maple syrup



## SHELF MUSHROOM

lifespan: some can continue growing for 80 years or more

### FUN FACTS:

- promotes wood decay
- groups can weigh over several hundred pounds



## MOSS

lifespan: depending on species, ranges from 2-10 years

### FUN FACTS:

- moss does not need soil to grow
- relies on the wind to disperse spores to reproduce
- there are male and female moss
- mosses evolved from algae



## WHITE CLOVER

lifespan: 21-86 days

### FUN FACTS:

- the dried flowers and seeds can be ground to make flour
- when steeped for tea, it is believed to purify the blood and boost immunity



## GOLDENROD

lifespan: perennial

### FUN FACTS:

- goldenrod is sometimes used for the manufacture of honey
- thomas edison made tires for the ford model t from the rubber found in goldenrod
- young leaves and seeds of goldenrod are edible. flowers are also edible, but are more commonly used for the preparation of tea

## HAYSCENTED FERN

lifespan: 10 years

### FUN FACTS:

- like the name suggests, this fern smells like newly mown hay
- ferns are some of the oldest plants in the world, first appearing in the fossil record about 360 million years ago





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