

Lewis and Clark animal matching cards

Teacher should print these on card stock and cut the illustration and the journal entry apart.

2003

Illustration by: Paul Johnsgard

Source: Lewis and Clark on the Great Plains

University of Nebraska Press with the Center for Gr



bison

1

[Ordway]

July 5th Friday 1805. a clear pleasant morning. 3 men Set out to go down to See the falls &C. a gang of buffalow Seen on the hills Some distance from Camp. Capt Clark and 12 men went out to attempt to kill Some of them but we could not git near them before they Smelled us and ran off Capt. Clark and Some of the men then returned to Camp the rest went after another gangue towards the South Mountain. towards evening they all came in had killed 3 buffalow 4 miles from this. they brought in Some meat and Skins. the 3 men returned fr[om] the falls & had killed Several buffalow might have killed hundreds if they had wished where they were pened under high cliffs of rocks at the falls. they went So close among them as to reach them with the muzzle of their guns, &C. they brought home Several tongues & Some brains, but had not time to take care of their meat & Skins &C—

grizzly
bearblack
bear

2

April 29, 1805

We proceeded early with a moderate wind: captain Lewis who was on shore with one hunter met about eight o'clock two white [grizzly] bears: of the strength and ferocity of this animal, the Indians had given us dreadful accounts: they never attack him but in parties of six or eight persons, and even then are often defeated with the loss of one or more of the party. Having no weapons but bows and arrows, and the bad guns with which the traders supply them, they are obliged to approach very near to the bear, and as no wound except through the head or heart is mortal, they frequently fall a sacrifice if they miss their aim. He rather attacks than avoids, and such is the terror which he has inspired, that the Indians who go in quest of him paint themselves and perform all the superstitious rites customary when they make war on a neighbouring nation. Hitherto those we had seen did not appear desirous of encountering us, but although to a skilful rifleman the danger is very much diminished, yet the white bear is still a terrible animal: on approaching these two, both captain Lewis and the hunter fired and each wounded a bear: one of them made his escape; the other turned upon captain Lewis and pursued him seventy or eighty yards, but being badly wounded he could not run so fast as to prevent him from reloading his piece, which he again aimed at him, and a third shot from the hunter brought him to the ground: he was a male not quite full grown, and weighed about three hundred pounds: the legs are somewhat longer than those of the black bear, and the talons and tusks much larger and stronger. The testicles are also placed much farther forward and suspended in separate pouches from two to four inches asunder, while those of the black bear are situated back between the thighs and in a single pouch like those of the dog: its colour is a yellowish brown, the eyes small, black, and piercing, the front of the fore legs near the feet is usually black, and the fur is finer, thicker, and deeper than that of the black bear.

2003

Illustration by: Paul Johnsgard

Source: Lewis and Clark on the Great Plains

University of Nebraska Press with the Center for Great Plains Studies



3

[Clark]

Tuesday 3d December 1805

a fair windey morning wind from the East the men returned with the Elk which revived the Spirits of my party verry much I am Still unwell and Can't eate even the flesh of the Elk. an Indian Canoe of 8 Indians Came too, those Inds. are on their way down to the *Clât Sops* with *Wap pa* to to barter with that nation, I purchasd. a few of those roots for which I gave Small fish hooks, those roots I eate with a little Elks Soupe which I found gave me great relief I found the roots both nurishing and as a check to my disorder. The Indians proceeded on down through emence high waves maney times their Canoe was entirely out of Sight before they were $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile distance. Serjt. Pryor & Gibson who went hunting yesterday has not returned untill after night, they informed me that they had killed 6 Elk at a great distance which they left lying, haveing taken out their interals that they had been lost and in their ramble saw a great deel of Elk Sign. after eateing the marrow out of two Shank bones of an Elk, the Squar chopped the bones fine boiled them and extracted a pint of Grease, which is Superior to the tallow of the animal. Some rain this evening

2003

Illustration by: Paul Johnsgard

Source: Lewis and Clark on the Great Plains

University of Nebraska Press with the Center for Great Plains Studies



4

September 17, 1804

Meriwether Lewis

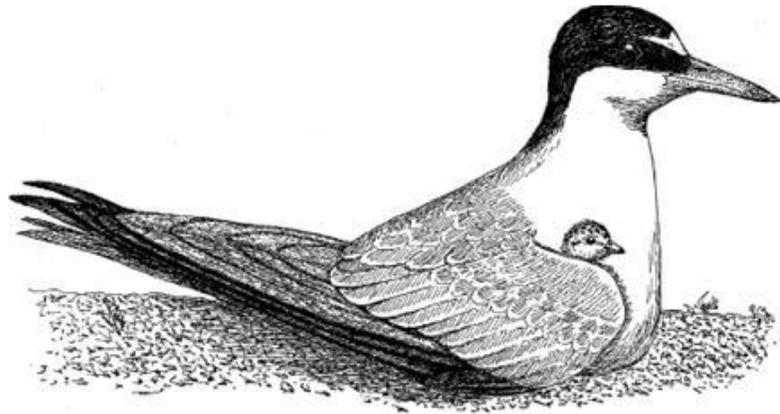
Having for many days past confined myself to the boat, I determined to devote this day to amuse myself on shore with my gun and view the interior of the country lying between the river and the Corvus Creek. ... the shortness and virdu[r]e of grass gave the plain the appearance throughout it's whole extent of beatifull bowling-green in fine order. ... this senery already rich pleasing and beatiful was still farther hightened by immence berds of Buffaloe, deer Elk and Antelopes which we saw in every direction feeding on the hills and plains. I do not think I exagerate when I estimate the number of Buffaloe which could be compre[hend]ed at one view to amount to 3000. my object was if possible to kill a female Antelope ... it appeared reather the rappid flight of birds than the motion of quadrupeds. I think I can safely venture the asscertion that the speed of this anamal is equal if not superior to that of the finest blooded courser.

2003

Illustration by: Paul Johnsgard

Source: Lewis and Clark on the Great Plains

University of Nebraska Press with the Center for Great Plains Studies



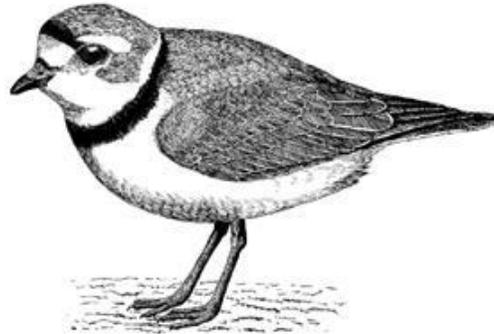
least tern

5

[Lewis]

Thursday August 7th 1806.

wate at the crossing places of the game for the Elk and weak cattle; when they procure a subject of either they lie by the carcass and keep the wolves off until they devour it. the bear appear to be very abundant on this part of the river. we saw a number of buffalo Elk &c as we passed but did not detain to kill any of them. we also saw an unusual flight of white gulls about the size of a pigeon with the top of their heads black. [8] at 4 P. M. we arrived at the entrance of the Yellowstone river. [9] I landed at the point and found that Capt. Clark had been encamped at this place and was gone from appearances had left it about 7 or 8 days. I found a paper on a pole at the point which nearly contained my name in the hand writing of Capt. C. we also found the remnant of a note which had been attached to a piece of Elk's horns in the camp; from this fragment I learned that game was scarce at the point and musquitoes troublesome which were the reasons given for his going on; I also learnt that he



piping plover

6

[Lewis]

Wednesday May 1st 1805.

of a dark rich mellow looking lome. John Shields sick today with the rheumatism. Shannon killed a bird of the plover kind. [a] weight one pound. it measured from the tip of the toe, to the extremity of the beak, 1 foot 10 inches; from tip to tip of wings when extended 2 F. 5 I.; Beak $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches; tale $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches; leg and toe 10 Ins.— the eye black, piercing, prominent and moderately large. the legs are flat thin, slightly imbricated and of a pale sky blue colour, being covered with feathers as far as the mustle extends down it, which is about half it's length.

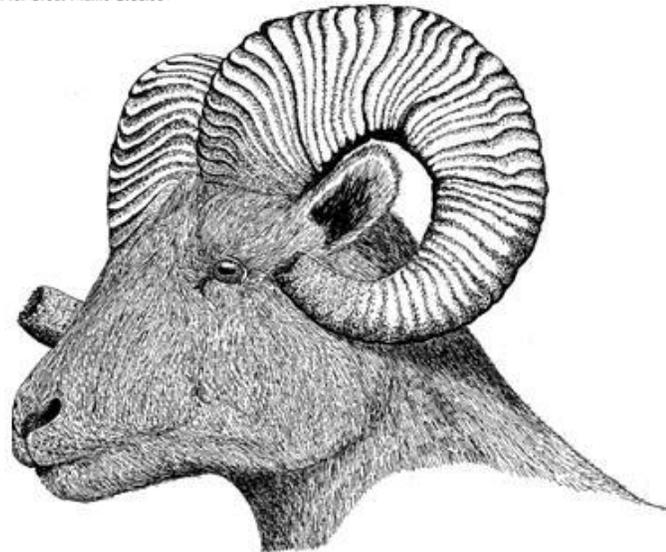
it has four toes on each foot, three of which, are connected by a web, the fourth is small and placed at the heel about the $\frac{1}{2}$ of an inch up the leg. the nails are black and short, that of the middle toe is extremely singular, consisting of two nails the one laping on or overlaying the other, the upper one somewhat the longest and sharpest. the tale contains eleven feathers of equal length, & of a bluish white colour. the boddy and underside of the wings, except the large feathers of the 1st & 2cd joints of the same, are white; as are also the feathers of the upper part of the 4th joint of the wing and part of those of the 3rd adjacent thereto, the large feathers of the 1st or pinion and the 2cd joint are black; a part of the larger feathers of the 3rd joint on the upper side and all the small feathers which cover the upper part of the wings are black, as are also the tuft of long feathers on each side of the body above the joining of the wing, leaving however a stripe of white between them on the back. the head and neck are shaped much like the grey plover, and are of a light brickdust colour brown; the beak is black and flat, largest where it joins the head, and from thence becoming thiner and tapering to a very sharp point, the upper chap being $\frac{1}{2}$ of an inch the longest and turns down at the point and forms a little hook. the nostrils, which commence near the head are long, narrow, connected, and parallel with the beak; the beak is much curved, the curvature being upwards in stead of downwards as is common with most birds; the substance of the beak precisely resembles whalebone at a little distance, and is quite as flexible as that substance their note resembles that of the grey plover, tho' is reather louder and more varied, their habits appear also to be the same, with this difference; that it sometimes rests on the water and swims which I do not recollect having seen the plover do. this bird which I shall henceforth stile the *Missouri plover*, generally feeds about the shallow bars of the river; to collect it's food which consists of [blank], it immerces it's beak in the water and throws it's head and beak from side to side at every step it takes.

2003

Illustration by: Paul Johnsgard

Source: Lewis and Clark on the Great Plains

University of Nebraska Press with the Center for Great Plains Studies



bighorn

7

[Clark]

22nd December Saturday 1804

a number of Squars womn & men Dressed in Squars Clothes [1] Came with Corn to Sell to the men for little things, we precured two horns of the animale the french Call the rock mountain Sheep [bighorn] those horns are not of the largest kind— The mandans Indians Call this Sheep *Ar-Sar-ta* it is about the Size of a large Deer, or Small Elk, its Horns Come out and wind around the head like the horn of a Ram and the teckere [NB: texture] not unlike it much larger and thicker perticelarly that part with which they but or outer part which is [blank] inchs thick, the length of those horns, which we have is [2]



8

September 7, 1804

As we descended from this dome, we arrived at a spot, on the gradual descent of the hill, nearly four acres in extent, and covered with small holes: these are the residence of a little animal [prairie dog], called by the French *petit chien* (little dog), who sit erect near the mouth, and make a whistling noise, but when alarmed take refuge in their holes. In order to bring them out, we poured into one of the holes five barrels of water without filling it, but we dislodged and caught the owner. After digging down another of the holes for six feet, we found, on running a pole into it, that we

had not yet dug half way to the bottom: we discovered, however, two frogs

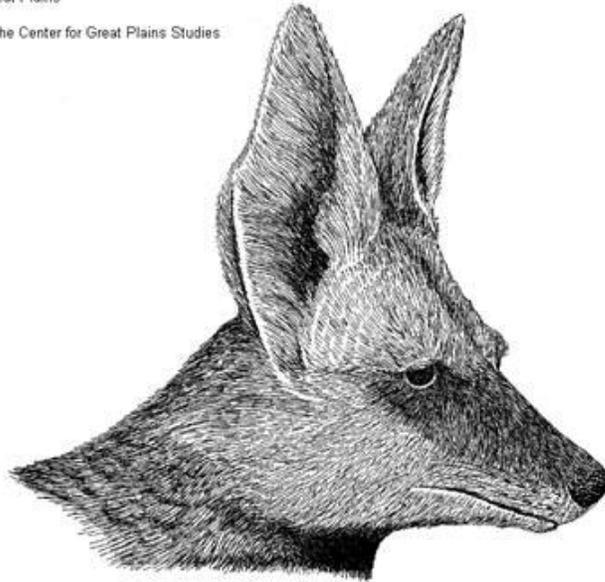
in the hole, and near it we killed a dark rattlesnake, which had swallowed a small prairie dog: we were also informed, though we never witnessed the fact, that a sort of lizard, and a snake, live habitually with these animals. The *petit chien* are justly named, as they resemble a small dog in some particulars, though they have also some points of similarity to the squirrel. The head resembles the squirrel in every respect, except that the ear is shorter, the tail like that of the ground-squirrel, the toe-nails are long, the fur is fine, and the long hair is gray.

2003

Illustration by: Paul Johnsgard

Source: Lewis and Clark on the Great Plains

University of Nebraska Press with the Center for Great Plains Studies



coyote

[Clark]

Sept. 18

I Killed a prairie wolf to day about the size of a Gray fox with a bushy tail the head and ears like a Fox wolf, and barks like a Small Dog— The animal which we have taken for the Fox is this wolf, we have seen no Foxes. [1]

2003

Illustration by: Paul Johnsgard

Source: Lewis and Clark on the Great Plain

University of Nebraska Press with the Cent



gray wolf

[Lewis]

Sunday May 5th 1805

sometimes associate and form one common flock. Capt [X: we] Clark found a den of young wolves in the course of his walk today and also saw a great number of those animals; they are very abundant in this quarter, and are of two species [3] the small wolf or burrowing dog of the praries are the inhabitants almost invariably of the open plains; they usually associate in bands of ten or twelve sometimes more and burrow near some pass or place much frequented by game; not being able alone to take deer or goat they are rarely ever found alone but hunt in bands; they frequently watch and seize their prey near their burrows; in these burrows they raise their young and to them they also resort when pursued; when a person approaches them they frequently bark, their note being precisely that of the small dog. they are of an intermediate size between that of the fox and dog, very active fleet and delicately formed; the [years] ears large erect and pointed the head long and pointed more like that of the fox; tale long [and bushy]; the hair and fur also resembles the fox tho' is much coarser and inferior. they are of a pale redish brown colour. the eye of a deep sea green colour small and piercing.

their tallons are reather longer than those of the ordinary wolf or that common to the atlantic states, none of which are to be found in this quarter, nor I believe above the river Plat.— The large wolf found here is not as large as those of the atlantic states. they were lower and [heaver] thicker made shorter leged. their colour which is not effected by the seasons, is a grey or blackish brown and every intermediate shade from that to a creen [cream] coloured white; these wolves resort the woodlands and are also found in the plains, but never take refuge in the ground or burrow so far as I have been able to inform myself. we scarcely see a gang of buffaloe without observing a parsel of those faithfull shepherds on their skirts in readiness to take care of the mamed & wounded. the large wolf never barks, but howls as those of the atlantic states do. Capt. Clark and Drewyer killed the largest brown bear this evening which

2003

Illustration by: Paul Johnsgard

Source: Lewis and Clark on the Great Plains

University of Nebraska Press with the Center for Great Plains Studies



11

September 17, 1804

William Clark

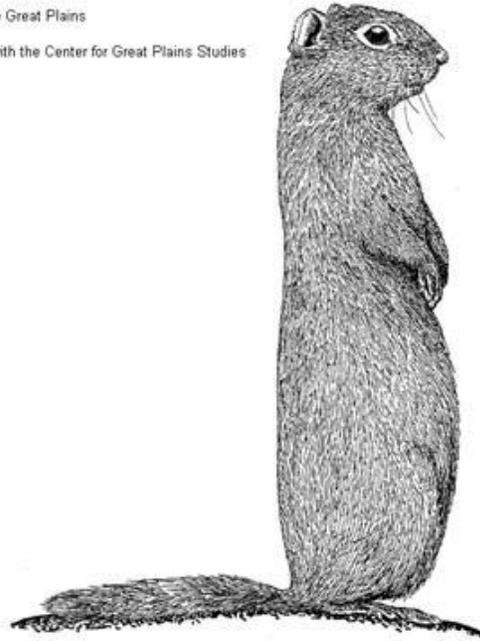
Colter Killed a Goat like the one I killed and a curious kind of Deer (Mule Deer) of a Dark gray Colr. more so than common, ... this Spec[i]es of Deer jumps like a goat or Sheep

2003

Illustration by: Paul Johnsgard

Source: Lewis and Clark on the Great Plains

University of Nebraska Press with the Center for Great Plains Studies



12

[Lewis]

Monday June 30th 1806.

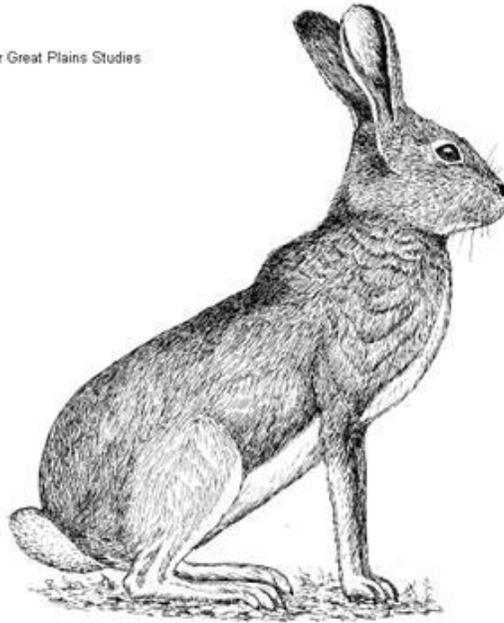
morning on the steep side of a high hill my horse slipped and both his hinder feet out of the road and fell, I also fell off backwards and slid near 40 feet down the hill before I could stop myself such was the steepness of the declivity; the horse was near falling on me in the first instance but fortunately recovers and we both escaped unhurt. I saw a small grey squirrel [4] today much like those of the Pacific coast only that the belly of this was white. I also met with the plant in blume which is sometimes called the lady's slipper or mockerson flower. [5] it is in shape and appearance like ours only that the corolla is white, marked with small veigns of pale red longitudinally on the inner side. after dinner we resumed our march. soon after seting out Sheilds killed another deer and in the course of the evening we picked up three others which Drewyer had killed along the road making a total of 6 today. Deer are very abundant in the neighborhood of travellers rest of both speceis, [6] also some bighorns [7] and Elk. a little

2003

Illustration by: Paul Johnsgard

Source: Lewis and Clark on the Great Plains

University of Nebraska Press with the Center for Great Plains Studies



White-tailed jackrabbit

[Whitehouse]

Thursday 3rd Jany. 1805 Some buffalow came near our fort, 9 men went out but killed none of them. one of the men killed a butiful white hair [1] which is common in this country.

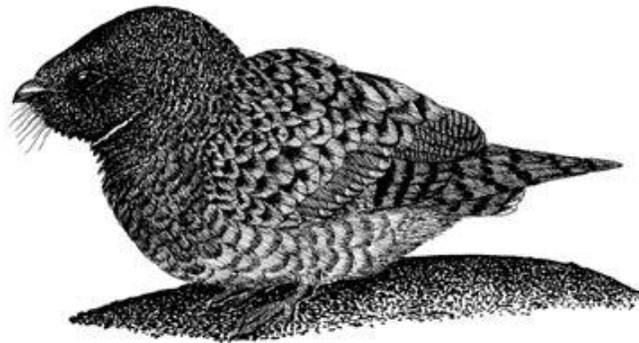
Thursday January 3d This morning some Buffalo came near our fort, the officers sent out 9 Men to hunt them, they returned but had killed none, One of the hunters killed a beautiful white hare, which is common in this Country.—

2003

Illustration by: Paul Johnsgard

Source: Lewis and Clark on the Great Plains

University of Nebraska Press with the Center for Great Plains Studies



common poorwill

[Lewis]

October 16th [13]

This day took a small bird [EC: *Phalaenoptilus nuttalli*] alive of the order of the [blank] or goat suckers. it appeared to be passing into the dormant state. on the morning of the 18th the mercury was at 30 a[bove] 0. the bird could scarcely move.— I run my penknife into it's body under the wing and completely distroyed it's lungs and heart— yet it lived upwards of two hours this fanominon I could not account for unless it proceeded from the want of circulation of the blo[o]d.— the recarees call this bird to'-na it's note is at-tah-to'-nah'; at-tah'to'-nah'; to-nah, a nocturnal bird, sings only in the night as does the whipperwill.— it's weight—1 oz 17 Grains Troy

2003

Illustration by: Paul Johnsgard

Source: Lewis and Clark on the Great Plains

University of Nebraska Press with the Center for Great Plains Studies



golden eagle

[Lewis]

Wednesday March 26th 1806.

the red willow and the sacacommis. [5] here our hunters joined us having killed three Eagles and a large goose. I had now an opportunity of comparing the bald with the grey Eagle; [6] I found that the grey Eagle was about $\frac{1}{4}$ larger, its legs and feet were dark while those of the bald Eagle were of a fine orange yellow; the iris of the eye is also of a dark yellowish brown while that of the other is of a bright silvery colour with a slight admixture of yellow. after dinner we proceeded on and passed an elegant and extensive bottom on the South side and an island

[Clark]

Wednesday March 26th 1806

here our hunters joined us having killed 3 Eagles and a large Wild goose. I had now an opportunity of Comparing the bald and with the grey Eagle; I found the grey Eagle about $\frac{1}{4}$ largest, its legs and feet were dark which those of the bald eagle were of a fine orange yellow; the iris of the eye is also of a dark yellowish brown, while that of the Grey is of a light Silvery colour with a Slight admixture of yellow. after dinner I walked on Shore through an elegant bottom on the South Side opposit to Fannys Island.

2003

Illustration by: Paul Johnsgard

Source: Lewis and Clark on the Great Plains

University of Nebraska Press with the Center for Great Plains Studies



sharp tailed grouse

[Clark]

7th of October Sunday 1804

walked on an (5) Island nearly the middle of the river Called "Shaved" Grouse Island, [NB: (the wall of a village on this island)] one of the men killed a Shee Brarrow, another man killed a Black tail Deer, the largest Doe I ever Saw (Black under her breast)] this Island is nearly 1¼ ms. Squar no timbr high and Covered with grass wild rye and Contains Great numbers of Grouse, we proceeded on a Short distance above the Island and Camped on the S. S. a fine evening.

2003

Illustration by: Paul Johnsgard

Source: Lewis and Clark on the Great Plains

University of Nebraska Press with the Center for Great Plains Studies



western meadowlark

[Lewis]

Tuesday March 4th 1806.

The turtle dove [2] and robbin are the same of our country and are found as well in the plain as open country. the Columbian robbin [3] heretofore discribed seems to be the inhabitant of the woody country exclusively. The Magpy [4] is most commonly found in the open country and are the same with those formerly discribed on the Missouri. the large woodpecker or log cock, the lark woodpecker [5] and the small white woodpecker with a read head [6] are the same with those of the Atlantic states and are found exclusively in the timbered country. The blue crested Corvus and the small white breasted do [7] have been previously discribed and are the natives of a piney country invariably, being found as well on the rocky mountains as on this coast.— the lark [8] is found in the plains only and are the same with those before mentioned on the Missouri, and not very unlike what is called in Virginia the *old field lark*.— The large blueish brown or sandhill Crain are found in the valley of the Rocky mountains in Summer and Autumn where they raise their young, and in the winter and begining of spring on this river below tidewater and on this coast. they are the same as those common to the Southern and Western States where they are most generally known by the name of the Sandhill crain. The vulture [9] has also been discribed. there are two species of the fly-catch, a small redish brown species [10] with a short tail, round body, short neck and short pointed beak. they have some fine black specks intermixed with the uniform redish brown. this the same with that which remains all winter in Virginia where it is sometimes called the wren. the second species [11] has lately returned and dose not remain here all winter. it's colours are a yellowish brown on the back head neck wings and tail the breast and belley of a yellowish white; the tail is in proportion as the wren but it is a size smaller than that bird. it's beak is streight pointed convex reather lage at the base and the chaps of equal length. the first species is the smallest, in short it is the smaest bird that I have ever seen in America except the humming bird. both these species are found in the woody country only or at least I have never seen them elsewhere.



whooping crane

[Lewis]

Sunday May 5th 1805

saw the carcasses of many Buffaloe lying dead along the shore partially devoured by the wolves and bear. saw a great number of white brant also the common brown brant, geese of the common kind and a small species of geese which differ considerably from the common canadian goose; their neck head and beak are considerably thicker shorter and larger than the other in proportion to it's size, they are also more than a third smaller, and their note more like that of the brant or a young goose which has not perfectly acquired his notes, in all other respects they are the same colour habits and the number of feathers in the tale, they frequently also associate with the large geese when in flocks, but never saw them pared off with the large or common goose. [1] The white brant [2] associate in very large flocks, they do not appear to be mated or pared off as if they intended to raise their young in this quarter, I therefore doubt whether they reside here during the summer for that purpose. this bird is about the size of the common brown brant or two thirds of the common goose, it is not so long by six inches from point to point of the wings when extended as the other; the beak head and neck are also larger and stronger; their beak and legs and feet are of a redish or fleshcoloured white. the eye is of moderate size, the puple of a deep sea green incircled with a ring of yellowish brown. it has sixteen feathers of equal length in the tale; their note differs but little from the common brant, their flesh much the same, and in my opinion preferable to the goose, the flesh is dark. they are entirely of a beatifull pure white except the large feathers of the 1st and second joints of the wings which are jut black. form and habits are the same with the other brant; they sometimes associate and form one common flock. Capt [X: we] Clark found a den of young

2003

Illustration by: Paul Johnsgard

Source: Lewis and Clark on the Great Plains

University of Nebraska Press with the Center for Great Plains Studies



lark sparrow

[Lewis]

Friday January 3d 1806.

that I think it an agreeable food and would prefer it vastly to lean Venison or Elk. a small Crow, [3] the blue crested Corvus and the smaller corvus with a white breast, [4] the little brown ren, [5] a large brown sparrow, [6] the bald Eagle and the beatifull Buzzard of the columbia still continue with us.— Sent Sergt. Gass and George shannon to the saltmakers who are

2003

Illustration by: Paul Johnsgard

Source: Lewis and Clark on the Great Plains

University of Nebraska Press with the Center for Great Plains Studies



bushy tailed wood rat

[Lewis]

Tuesday July 2nd 1805.

about 10 feet deep. after our return, in moving some of the baggage we caught a large rat. [2]

[NB: Copy for Dr Barton] it was somewhat larger than the common European rat, of lighter colour; the body and outer part of the legs and head of a light lead colour, the belly and inner side of the legs white as were also the feet and years. the toes were longer and the ears much larger than the common rat; the ears uncovered with hair. the eyes were black and prominent the whiskers very long and full. the tail was reather longer than the body and covered with fine fur or poil of the same length and colour of the back. the fur was very silky close and short. I have frequently seen the nests of these rats in clifts of rocks and hollow trees but never before saw one of them. they feed very much on the fruit and seed of the prickly pear; or at least I have seen large quantities of the hulls of that fruit lying about their holes and in their nests.

2003

Illustration by: Paul Johnsgard

Source: Lewis and Clark on the Great Plains

University of Nebraska Press with the Center for Great Plains Studies



swift fox

[Lewis]

Saturday July 6th 1805

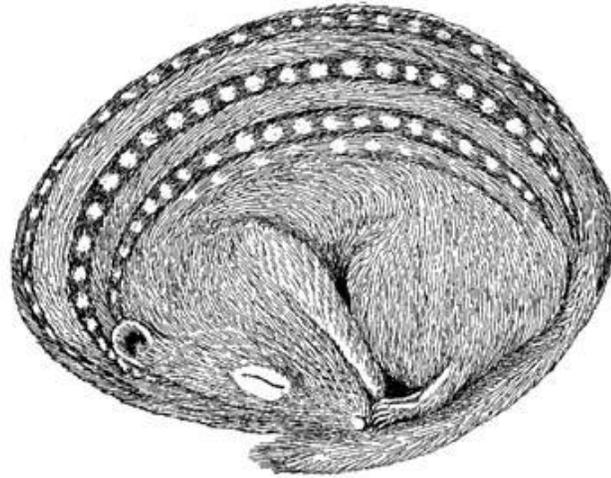
In the couse of last night had several showers of hail and rain attended with thunder and lightning. about day a heavy storm came on from the S W attended with hail rain and a continued roar of thunder and some lightning. the hail was as large as musket balls and covered the ground perfectly. we hand some of it collected which kept very well through the day and served to cool our water. These showers and gusts keep my boat wet in dispite of my exertions. she is not yet ready for the grease and coal. after the hail and rain was over this morning we dispatched 4 hunters and two canoes to the head of the rappids as we had determined last evening. the red and yellow courants [1] are now ripe and abundant, they are reather ascid as yet. There is a remarkable small fox which asociate in large communities and burrow in the praries something like the small wolf but we have not as yet been able to obtain one of them; [2] they are extreemly watchfull and take reffuge in their burrows which are very deep; we have seen them no where except near these falls.

2003

Illustration by: Paul Johnsgard

Source: Lewis and Clark on the Great Plains

University of Nebraska Press with the Center for Great Plains Studies



thirteen lined ground squirrel

[Lewis]

Monday July 8th 1805.

having killed a Buck and a male Antelope. The party who were down with Capt. Clark also killed a small fox which they brought with them. it was a female appeared to give suck, otherwise it is so much like the comm small fox of this country commonly called the kit fox that I should have taken it for a young one of that species; however on closer examination it did appear to differ somewhat; it's colour was of a lighter brown, it's years proportionably larger, and the tale not so large or the hair not so long which formed it. they are very delicately formed, exceedingly fleet, and not as large as the common domestic cat. their tallons appear longer than any species of fox I ever saw and seem therefore prepared more amply by nature for the purpose of burrowing. there is sufficient difference for discrimination between it and the kit fox, and to satisfy me perfectly that it is a distinct species. [2] the men also brought me a living ground squirrel [3] which is something larger than those of the U' States or those of that kind which are also common here. this is a much handsomer animal. like the other it's principal colour is a redish brown but is marked longitudinally with a much greater number of black or dark bron stripes; the spaces between which is marked by ranges of pure white circular spots, about the size of a brister blue shot. [4] these colours imbrace the head neck back and sides; the tail is flat, or the long hair projecting horizontally from two sides of it only gives it that appearance. the belly and breast are of much lighter brown or nearly white. this is an inhabitant of the open plain altogether, wher it burrows and resides; nor is it like the other found among cliffs of rocks or in the woodlands. their burrows sometimes like those of the mole run horizontally near the surface of the ground for a considerable distance, but those in which they reside or take refuge strike much deeper in the earth.— Slight rain this afternoon. musquetoos troublesome as usual.—

2003

Illustration by: Paul Johnsgard

Source: Lewis and Clark on the Great Plains

University of Nebraska Press with the Center for Great Plains Studies



Lewis's woodpecker

[Lewis]

Tuesday May 27th 1806.

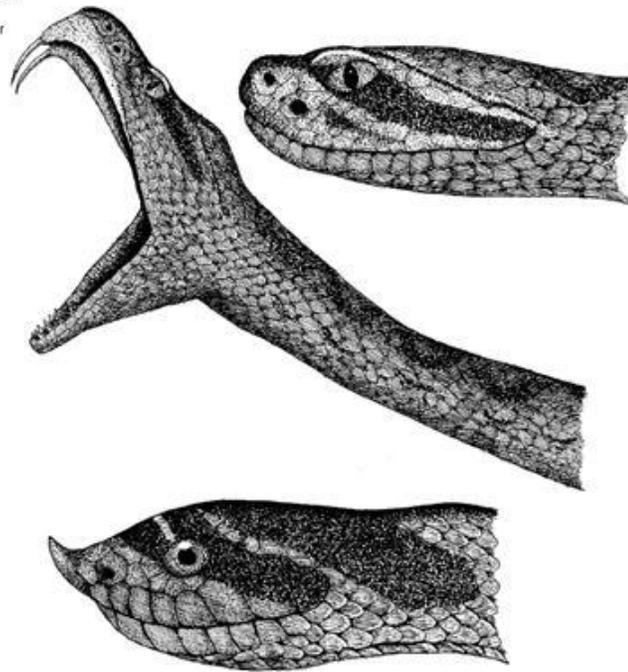
the grass in their villages is not cut down as in those of the plains of the missouri. I preserved the skins of several of these animals with the heads feet and legs entire. The Black woodpecker [5] which I have frequently mentioned and which is found in most parts of the roky Mountains as well as the Western and S. W. mountains. I had never an opportunity of examining untill a few days since when we killed and preserved several of them. this bird is about the size of the lark woodpecker of the turtle dove, tho' it's wings are longer than either of those birds. the beak is black, one inch long, reather wide at the base, somewhat curved, and sharply pointed; the chaps are of equal length. around the base of the beak including the eye and a small part of the throat is of a fine crimson red. the neck and as low as the croop in front is of an iron grey. the belly and breast is a curious mixture of white and blood reed which has much the appearance of having been artifically painted or stained of that colour. the red reather predominates. the top of the head back, sides, upper surface of the wings and tail are black, with a gossey tint of green in a certain exposure to the light. the under side of the wings and tail are of a sooty black. it has ten feathers in the tail, sharply pointed, and those in the center reather longest, being 2½ inches in length. the tongue is barbed, pointed, and of an elastic cartelaginous substance. the eye is moderately large, puple black and iris of a dark yellowish brown. this bird in it's action when flying resembles the small redheaded woodpecke common to the Atlantic states; [6] it's note also somewhat resembles that bird. the pointed tail seems to assist it in seting with more eas or retaining it its resting position against the perpendicular side of a tree. the legs and feet are black and covered with wide imbricated scales. it has four toes on each foot of which two are in rear and two in front; the nails are much curved long and remarkably keen or sharply pointed. it feeds on bugs worms and a variety of insects.—

2003

Illustration by: Paul Johnsgard

Source: Lewis and Clark on the Great Plains

University of Nebraska Press with the Cer



[Lewis]

Sept 5th [10]

This day one of our hunters brought us a Serpent beautifully variagated with small black spots of a romboydal form on a light yellow white ground the black pedominates most on the back the white is yellow on the sides, and it is nearly white on the belly with a few party coloured scuta on which the black shews but imperfectly and the colouring matter seems to be underneath the Scuta— it is not poisonous it hisses remarkably loud; it has 221 Scuta on the belly and 51 on the tale, the eyes are of a dark black colour the tale terminates in a sharp point like the substance of a cock's spur— Length 4 Ft. 6 l.

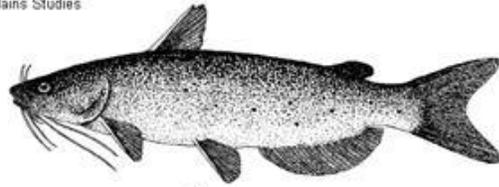
2003

Illustration by: Paul Johnsgard

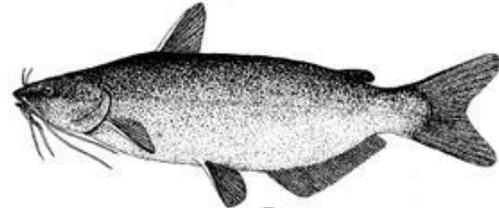
Source: Lewis and Clark on the Great Plains

University of Nebraska Press with the Center for Great Plains Studies

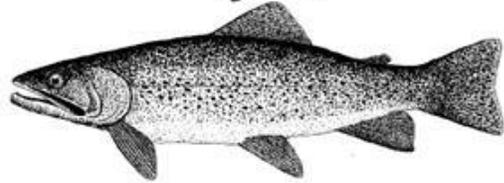
channel catfish



blue catfish



cutthroat trout



July 24, 1804

[Clark] [1]

White Catfish Camp 24th of July Tuesday. a fair morning the wind rose with the Sun & blows hard from the S. thos Southerley Breezes are dry Cool & refreshing. the Northerley Breezes which is more frequent is much Cooler, and moist, I continue my Drawing. Cap Lewis also ingaged preparing Som paper to Send back, [2] one of the men cougth a *white Catfish*, the eyes Small, & Tale resembling that of a Dolfin. [3]

[Lewis]

Monday August 19th 1805.

This morning I arose at dylight and sent out three hunters. some of the men who were much in want of legings and mockersons I suffered to dress some skins. the others I employed in repacking the baggage, making pack saddles &c. we took up the net this morning but caught no fish. one beaver was caught in a trap. the frost which perfectly whitened the grass this morning had a singular appearance to me at this season. this evening I made a few of the men construct a sein of willow brush which we hawled and caught a large number of fine trout and a kind of mullet [1] about 16 Inhes long which I had not seen before. the scales are small, the nose is long and obtusely pointed and exceeds the under jaw. the mouth is not large but opens with foalds at the sides, the colour of it's back and sides is of a bluish brown and belley white; it has the faggot bones, from which I have supposed it to be of the mullet kind. the tongue and pallate are smooth and it has no teeth. it is by no means as good as the trout. the trout [2] are the same which I first met with at the falls of the Missouri, they are larger than the speckled trout of our mountains and equally as well flavored.— The hunters returned this evening with two deer. from what has already been