








Sun bears



-  The sun bear is sometimes called the honey bear because it loves honey—just like a famous bear you may know! Its coat is mostly black but it gets its name from the large golden mark on its chest.
-  The exact number of sun bears in the wild is not known. Loss of habitat and hunting by poachers are the main reasons why the number of sun bears is falling.
-  Just like children, sun bears love to climb trees and they are very good at it! They have long claws for gripping and soft pads for walking along the branches.
-  Sun bears are nocturnal. During the day they sleep in nests which they build in the branches of tall trees.
-  Honey is not sun bears' only food. They will eat insects, grasses, fruit and even small mammals.
-  Sun bears live in the tropics where it is warm all year round so they do not need to have a winter sleep. Bears that live in cold places need to hibernate because food is scarce in winter and weather conditions are very bad.
-  Sun bears may be small and cute to look at but the adults are very aggressive. They would not make very good pets!

1. In Paragraph 7, the word **aggressive** means:

- (a) *small.*
- (b) *cute.*
- (c) *wanting to fight.*



2. Sun bears eat:

- (a) *only meat.*
- (b) *only plants.*
- (c) *meat and plants.*

3. Sun bears do not hibernate because:

- (a) *they live in the tropics.*
- (b) *they are nocturnal.*
- (c) *they live in trees.*

4. The number of sun bears is falling because:

- (a) *their habitat is being destroyed.*
- (b) *they are being hunted.*
- (c) *their habitat is being destroyed and they are being hunted.*

5. Sun bears would not make good pets because they:

- (a) *are too big.*
- (b) *eat too much.*
- (c) *are not gentle.*

6. In Paragraph 3, the word **they** is used instead of:

- (a) *children.*
- (b) *sun bears.*
- (c) *feet.*



Something extra

- ★ Copy a picture of a sun bear.
- ★ Find out what is special about the sun bear's skin. Tell a friend.