

# Reindeer or Caribou

By Cindy Grigg



male	deer	caribou	migrate
than	types	near	type
region	main	spot	lands
year	land	stay	fact
plain			

**Directions:** Fill in each blank with the word that best completes the reading comprehension.

Reindeer are a (1) \_\_\_\_\_ of deer. They live in (2) \_\_\_\_\_ (3) \_\_\_\_\_ the Arctic polar (4) \_\_\_\_\_. In Europe and Asia, they are called reindeer. In North America, we call them (5) \_\_\_\_\_.

Reindeer have thick fur coats. Their fur helps them to (6) \_\_\_\_\_ warm in the bitter cold of the Arctic. Both (7) \_\_\_\_\_ and female reindeer have long, branched antlers. This makes them unlike other (8) \_\_\_\_\_ of deer. The females of other (9) \_\_\_\_\_ don't have antlers.

Reindeer live in groups called herds. Every (10) \_\_\_\_\_, reindeer must walk for thousands of miles to look for food. They eat plants and fungi. They eat grass, moss, and lichen. They eat tree leaves, too.

In spring and summer, reindeer move north. As the snow melts, reindeer (11) \_\_\_\_\_ to the Arctic tundra. Tundra is an open (12) \_\_\_\_\_. It is so far north and so cold that no trees can grow there. Reindeer don't stay in one (13) \_\_\_\_\_. Instead, they are always on the move. They must keep looking for food. Reindeer migrate farther (14) \_\_\_\_\_ any other (15) \_\_\_\_\_ mammal. When fall comes, reindeer move south where there is less snow. Their (16) \_\_\_\_\_ food supply in the winter months is lichen. Reindeer use their large hooves to paw away snow to find food. In (17) \_\_\_\_\_, their name comes from an Indian word for "snow shoveler."

