

ANIMAL FUN FACT FRIDAY

Alpine Tundra Biome

Marmots: (woodchucks/groundhogs)

- Spend majority of life underground
- Largest animal in the squirrel family
- Feet and claws made for digging

Alpine Ibexes:

- Wild goats of European Alps, central Asia and northern Africa
- Males have long beards
- Very nimble; can jump 6 feet straight up

Elk:

- Often mistaken for moose
- Loudest members of deer family - bugling
- Herds are large (into the hundreds) and run by a single female

Alpacas:

- Babies are called "cria"
- Poop in the same spot
- Fleese is warmer and less itchy than wool

Chamois:

- Goat/antelope-looking animal
- Main predators - lynx, eagles, brown bears, wolves
- Females live with children; males solitary

Pikas:

- Related to rabbits; look like hamsters
- Very territorial - bleat loudly to protect
- Have a tail, but hidden by dense fur

Keas:

- Playful, inquisitive & brave
- Mostly live on South Island in New Zealand
- Male and female beaks are different

Clark's Nutcrackers:

- Special pouch under tongue to carry 30-150 seeds to store hidden for later use
- Excellent memory - can find seeds many months later
- Female lays 2-6 pale green eggs with brown spots

Springtails:

- Don't bite, sting or transmit disease
- Extremely small - 1/16 to 1/18 inch
- Need moisture to survive

