Help the bison get back to the herd!
Peter & Catharine

Peter Whyte was born in Banff and loved hiking, camping and skiing. He dreamed of being an artist. He met Catharine Robb at art school and she also loved to paint and draw. They built a home in Banff where they lived for the rest of their lives, painting the beautiful landscape. Peter and Catharine Whyte were the founders of the Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies in Banff – a special place where you can find history, art, and stories from the past!

Peter and Catharine liked to go camping and paint in the mountains

Have you ever been camping in the Canadian Rockies?

__Yes  __No

Did you Know?

Catharine Whyte was from America. She was born on June 13, 1906 in Concord, Massachusetts.

• Is there a grizzly and a black bear?
• Who lives in this house?
Both black bears (Ursus americanus) and grizzly bears (Ursus arctos) live in the Rocky Mountains. But sometimes black bears can be brown in colour and can be confused with grizzly bears. Here is some basic information to keep them straight!

**BLACK BEAR**
- Shorter Claws: < 2”
- Larger Pointed Ears
- No Shoulder Hump
- Front Track

**GRIZZLY BEAR**
- Longer Claws: 2” - 4”
- Smaller Rounded Ears
- Shoulder Hump
- Front Track

**Animals:**
Can you match the animal to their print?

- Wolf
- Mouse
- Deer
- Marten
- Bear
- Cougar
- Squirrel

Match the horns or antlers to the animal

- Moose
- Buffalo
- Elk
- Bighorn Sheep
- Deer

**Bears**

Did you Know?
A grizzly bear has to eat almost 20,000 calories a day. 75% of their diet is comprised of berries, leaves and nuts.

Did you Know?
Felines such as a cougar or a cat retract their claws as they walk but many animals (ie: bears, coyotes and wolves) leave claw marks.
What is an artifact?

Draw a picture on this page of an artifact from the bison section of the museum.

An artifact is something old and valuable - usually because of its age, cultural importance, material it's made from, connection to an important story, or how rare it is.

What is a bison?

A bison stands 6 to 6.5 feet tall and 10 – 12.5 feet long.

Did you Know?

In the early 1800s’ it is estimated that around 30 million bison roamed the plains in North America. However, by the late 1880s’ they were almost extinct.

For many First Nations groups, the buffalo is a very important animal. Traditionally, every part of the animal was used – nothing went to waste. Buffalo provided them with food, clothing, shelter and tools.

In 2017, Parks Canada reintroduced bison to Banff National Park with the hope they will once again thrive in this environment.

Did you know that male bison can weigh up to 725 kg (approx. 1600 lbs)?

That’s more than a:

a) elephant
b) dairy cow
c) hippopotamus
d) blue whale

Hint: it’s about the same weight of 8 grown men!

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Here are photographs of the mountains in and around the town of Banff.

Can you name all four mountains?

**Mountains**

1. **Mountain**
   - Hint: It has a second special name.

2. **Mount __________**
   - Hint: This mountain is named after a priest.

3. **Mountain**
   - Hint: This mountain has a waterfall.

4. **Mountain**
   - Hint: This mountain has hot springs and the gondola is at the top.

Did you know?
The Stoney Nakoda have a special name for Tunnel Mountain? It’s Sacred Buffalo Guardian Mountain.

Did you know?
Black bears can be black to reddish brown (cinnamon bears) to light brown to white.

This is a very bad idea – for the human and the bears.

Bears
Make sure you give bears space. Carry bearspray with you when you hike and never run if you encounter a bear.

Unscramble the following words:

LCWAS
BUSC
BERHNATIOIN
YSPBEAARR
ZGIZRLY
WAPS
CBALK

Connect the dots
Is this a grizzly or a black bear?

Bears begging from tourists, 1895, 1910, 192-, Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies, Mary Schaffer fonds (V527/PS 1-495)

Answers:

(bearspray) (grizzly) (paws) (black)

(bearsbegging) (cubs) (hibernation)
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Draw a picture of what it would be like to go camping in the Rocky Mountains.

Did you Know?

Ideas to get started:

• Name the two mountains
• Identify the animals

Did you Know?

You can find Peter and Catharine’s home on museum property and take a tour inside.

Colour this page

Peter and Catharine, 1929, Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies, Peter and Catharine Whyte fonds (V683/II/B/37)

Peter and Catharine, 1932-1933, Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies, Peter and Catharine Whyte fonds (V683/III/A/1/pd1-042)