

The “Big Bad Wolf”

Are wolves really big and bad like the scary wolves in *Little Red Riding Hood* and the movie *Frozen*? No! Those are make-believe stories. Real wolves are very shy, and they avoid people whenever they can. Who’s afraid of the big bad wolf? You needn’t be!



“Dangerous wolf-human interactions are extremely rare. They are more likely to occur when wolves are habituated to people, when dogs are involved, or if wolves are sick (e.g. rabies).”

<https://www.dfw.state.or.us/Wolves/faq.asp>

Remember that while wolves are beautiful and are especially cute and cuddly as puppies, it is never a good idea to try to tame any wild animal. Let’s keep them all safe and wild!



Monty Sloan

You can help wolves!

Spread the word!

Tell your friends and your family all the awesome things you’ve learned about wolves!

Learn More!

Read books and watch videos that teach you more about the life of real wolves.

Believe!

You can help anything you really care about!



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The World of Wolves!



Debbie Steinhauser

Getting to Know the Gray Wolf!

A Wolf Pack is the Wolf’s Family!

Wolves live together with their family. This includes mom and dad, brothers and sisters, baby pups, and maybe even their aunts and uncles.

The parents are the head of the family. They make the important decisions and are very loving and caring to their family.

The whole family cooperates. They work together to hunt for food, defend the place where they live, and take care of each other, especially the pups.

Wolf families are very devoted and loyal to each other.

For wolves, family is everything!

It's a Pup's Life!



Denver Bryan



NOAA



Jim & Jamie Dutcher



Jim & Jamie Dutcher

Springtime

4-6 pups are born in a safe and warm den that their mom made. For 10 days the pups are blind and deaf. Mom stays with the pups to feed them milk and keep them warm.

3-4 Weeks Old

The pups are big enough to leave the den and meet their family for the first time. All wolves love pups! Did you know that wolf pups have babysitters? Maybe their older brother or aunt will stay with them while their family goes hunting to bring back food.

3-4 Months Old

The family moves to a new place for the summer. It's like summer camp for the pups. The pups explore and play together – stalking, chasing, and pouncing on each other! They learn from the older wolves. They follow them, sniff what they sniff, and learn how to talk like a wolf.

7-8 Months Old

The pups are now big enough to start learning how to hunt. When they are one year old, they are as big as Mom and Dad. They need one more year to learn how to be good parents and good hunters.

Lots of fun wolf facts!



ODFW

What do wolves eat?

Wolves are carnivores. That means they eat meat. They hunt really big animals like deer and elk to feed their whole family. They also hunt small animals like mice, rabbits, and even fish.

Feet - Wolves' large feet have webbing between their toes to help them be good at swimming and walking on snow.

Fur - Wolves wear two coats of fur. The fur on top keeps them dry, like a raincoat. The fur underneath is thick, soft, and fluffy. It keeps them warm, like a fleece coat.

Nose - The wolves can smell their prey more than one mile away!

Ears - They can hear each other 6 miles away in the forest!



Debbie DiCarlo

Are gray wolves only gray?

No, they can also be black, reddish brown, and even white.

Wolf Talk - Wolves talk using many sounds, but they are famous for howling. They howl to find each other, to rally before a hunt, to warn other wolves to stay away from their home, and they howl just for the fun of it! Every wolf has a different voice, just like us.



Where do wolves live? Anywhere they can find food, water, and shelter can be a home. However, wolves don't live in cities.

Are wolves dogs? No, but they share a common ancestor and almost all of their DNA. Even little dogs like chihuahuas are 99.9% wolf! Do you think that is why wolves and dogs look and act so much

Wolves love to play at all ages!