



# Alaska

Great  
Land

Презентация подготовлена преподавателем  
английского языка

« Нижегородского Губернского колледжа »  
Кузнецовой Светланой Ивановной



**State Abbreviation:**  
**AK**

**Origin of Name:**

The name Alaska is derived from the Aleut word "Alyeska," meaning "great land."

**Nickname:**

Last Frontier, Great Land,  
Land of the Midnight Sun

Alaska lies at the extreme northwest of the North American continent and is the largest peninsula in the Western Hemisphere.





# The Alaska State Flag

More than 30 years before Alaska was to become a state, the Alaska Department of the American Legion sponsored a territorial contest for Alaska children in grades seven through twelve. A flag was needed to represent the future state of Alaska and somebody thought it would be a good idea to tap into the creativity of these kids.

Contest rules were circulated throughout the Alaska Territory in January, 1927. The rules stipulated that the first stage of the competition would take place at a local level. Each town would set up a panel of judges that would determine the ten best local designs and forward these to Juneau where the final competition would take place. A total of 142 designs were forwarded to Juneau.

# Alaska State Symbols:

Capital: Juneau

Motto: North To The Future

Alaska State Seal

Bird: Willow Ptarmigan

Fish: Giant King Salmon

Flower: Forget-me-not

Fossil: Woolly Mammoth

Gem: Jade

Insect: Four spot skimmer dragonfly

Land Mammal: Moose

Marine Mammal: Bowhead whale

Mineral: Gold

Song: Alaska's Flag

Sport: Dog mushing

Tree: Sitka spruce

Capital



Juneau



ARCTIC ICE PACK

BARROW

PRUDHOE BAY

TUNDRA

BROOKS RANGE

YUKON RIVER

ALASKA

NOME

FAIRBANKS

MOUNT MCKINLEY (DENALI)

ALASKA RANGE

YUKON

ANCHORAGE

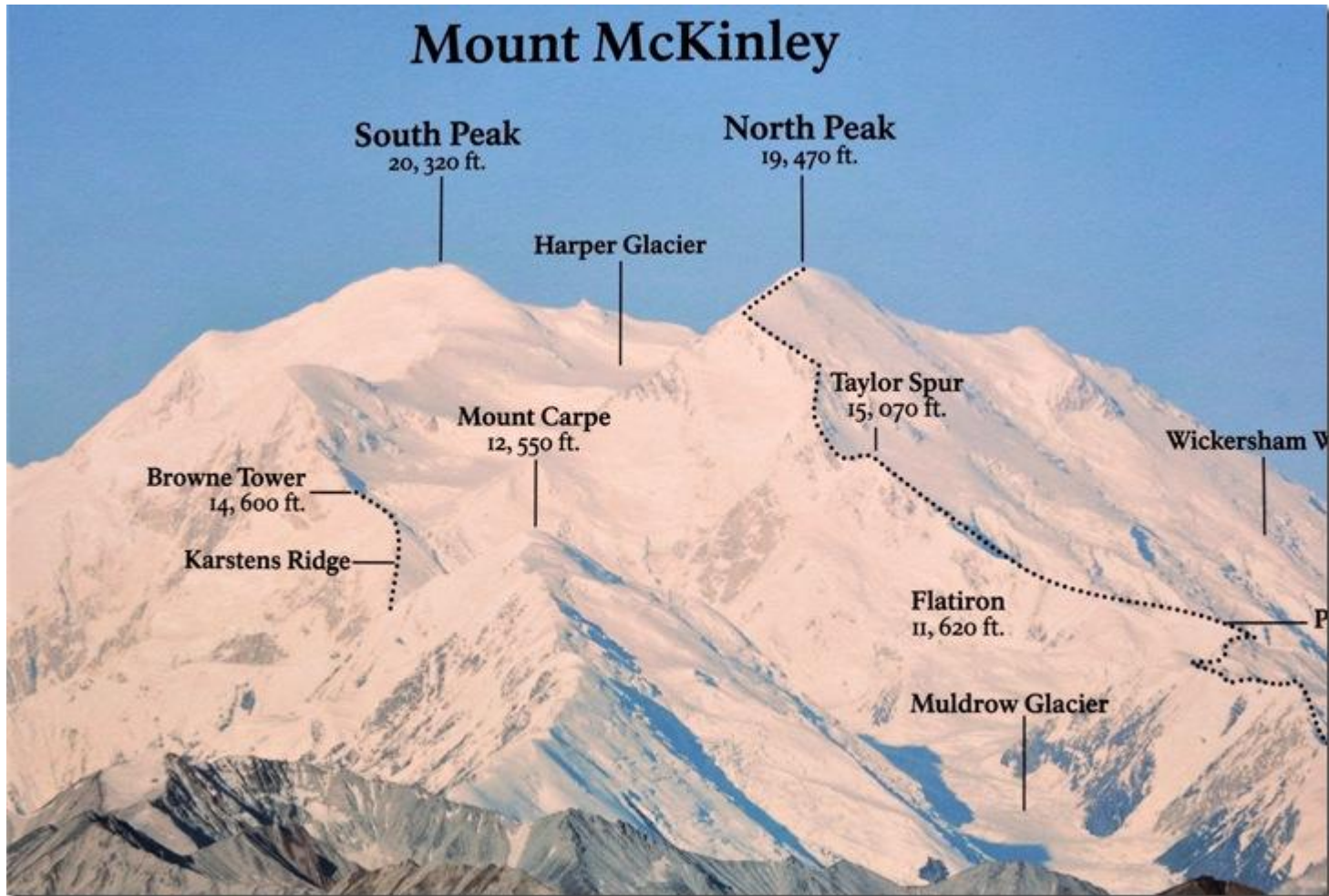
BETHEL

HOMER

GULF OF ALASKA



Mount McKinley, in Denali National Park, at 20,320 feet (6,194 meters), is the highest peak in North America.



Native Eskimo and Aleut tribes inhabited the Alaska area before it was discovered by [Vitus Bering](#), a Dane exploring for the Russians, in 1741.

Vitus Bering was the first to map the west coast of Alaska.



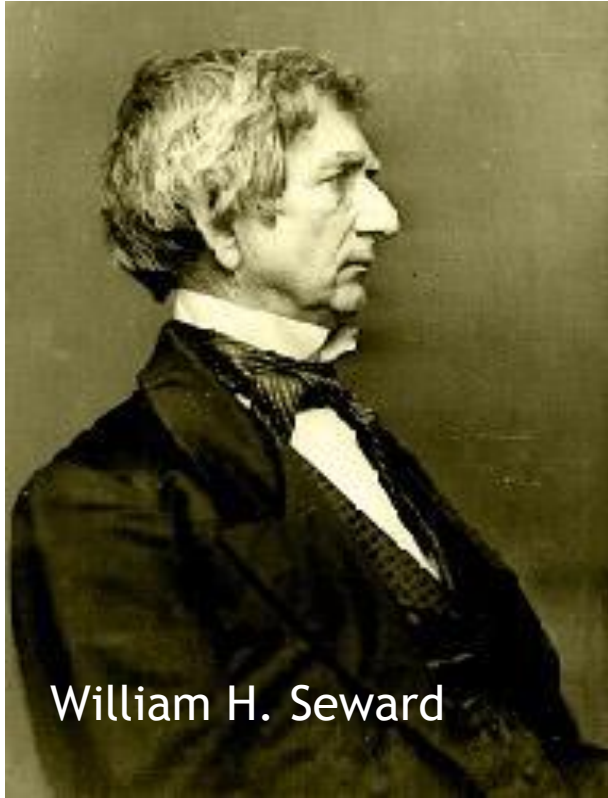
Витус Беринг  
1681–1741



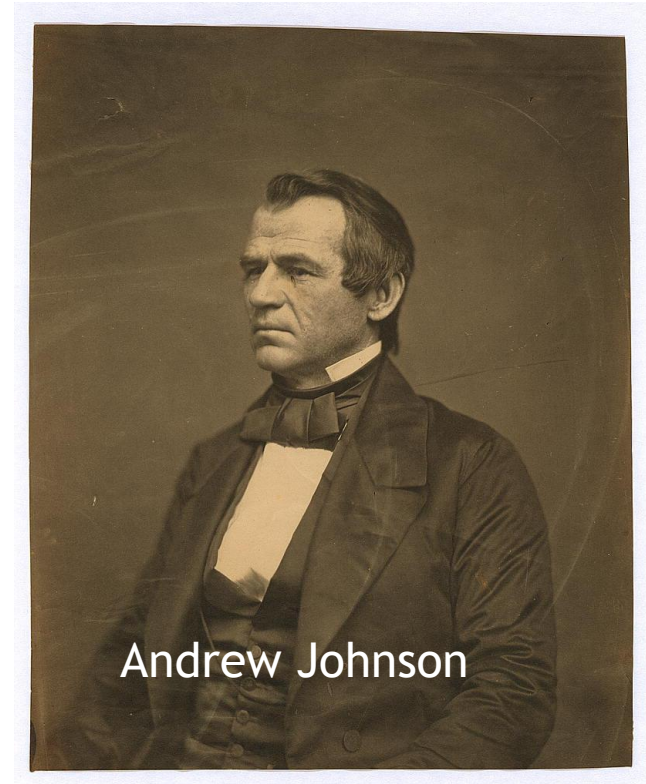
# Витус Ионассен БЕРИНГ



America bought Alaska from Russia on March 30, 1867. President Andrew Johnson's Secretary of State, William H. Seward, was responsible for negotiating the purchase of Alaska from Russia. The USA paid Russia \$7.2 million for Alaska.



William H. Seward



Andrew Johnson

## "Seward's icebox"



. Critics of Seward's agreement to purchase the Alaska territory from Russia referred to the plan as "Seward's Folly." They mocked his willingness to spend so much on **"Seward's icebox"** and Andrew Johnson's **"Polar bear garden"**.

“Polar bear garden.”



Gold was discovered in 1896 at Bonanza Creek, setting off the great [Klondike Gold Rush](#).





Oil was discovered at Prudhoe Bay, Alaska in 1968. The oil fields at [Prudhoe Bay](#) are the largest in North America. The [Trans-Alaska pipeline](#) was built and completed in 1977 at a cost of \$7.7 billion.

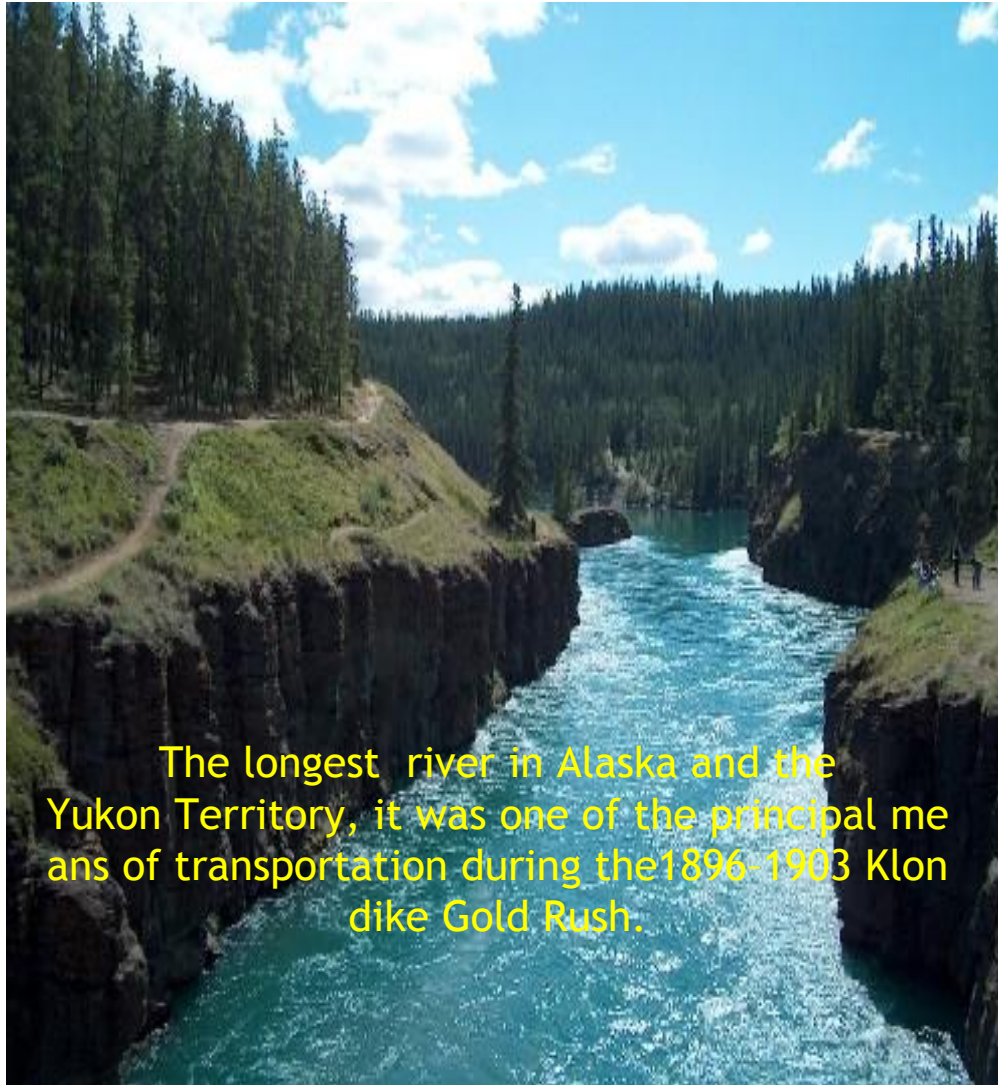


An oil spill by an [Exxon tanker](#) in Prince William Sound in 1989 damaged pristine coastline and led to battles between environmentalists and the oil industry. The beautiful scenery, national parks, and wildlife are Alaska's main natural resources and tourist attractions



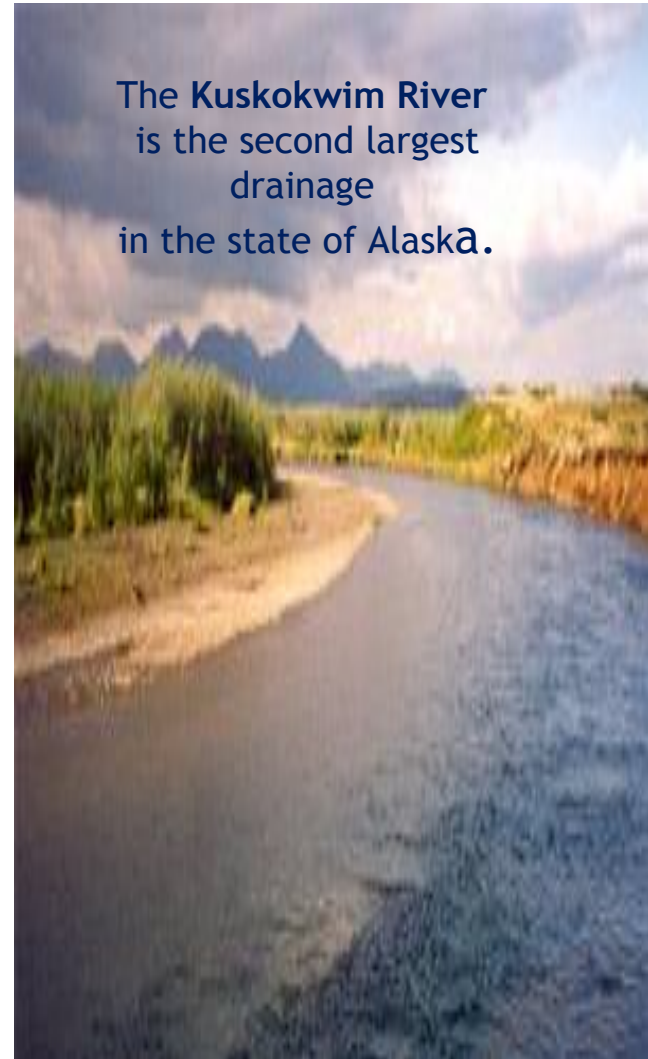
# Major Rivers:

## Yukon River



The longest river in Alaska and the Yukon Territory, it was one of the principal means of transportation during the 1896-1903 Klondike Gold Rush.

## Kuskokwim River



The Kuskokwim River is the second largest drainage in the state of Alaska.



# SUSAN BUTCHER

1954 - 2006

Sled dog racer

# BENNY BENSON

He is from Chignik Alaska. In 1926 at age of 13 Benny Benson designed the state flag. The blue field is for the sky and the forget-me-not is the state flower.

The North Star is for the future of the state of Alaska, the most northern of the Union. The dipper is for the Great Bear – symbolizing strength.



The winner of the contest was a seventh grade Aleut student, thirteen year old John Bell (Benny) Benson from Chignik. He was living in an orphanage in Seward, the Jesse Lee Mission Home, at the time of the contest.

He designed the present Alaska State Flag with a blue background to represent the sky and the Forget-me-not flower. On that background were placed eight gold stars to represent the Big Dipper and the North Star. The Big Dipper forms part of the constellation Ursa Major or Great Bear; symbolizing strength.\* The North Star represents the future state of Alaska, the most northerly in the Union. Benny's simple, elegant design was adopted by the Alaska Territorial Legislature in May, 1927.

Benny's contribution has been honored by the city of Anchorage, where you could find yourself walking down Benson Boulevard and Kodiak, where you could find yourself walking down Benny Benson Drive. The [Benny Benson Secondary School](#), in Anchorage, is a S.A.V.E. II school (Specialized Academic and Vocational Education), specializing in a Work-Study Educational Program for High School Students.

# CARL BEN EIELSON

1897 - 1929

Pionier pilot





**JEWEL**

Singer and musician





# JOE JUNEAU

Prospector-старатель

## **Things to Do**

[Alaska State Bird and State Flower](#) Printable Color Page.

Before printing under File in Page Setup set margins to zero.

[Make A Binky Puppet](#) Alaska's famous zoo polar bear.

## **Things to Do-Lesson Plans**

### **[Running The Iditarod The Last Great Race on Earth](#) (Grade 3-5)**

In this WebQuest you will learn what it is like to compete in this incredible race by assuming the roll of a musher in the Iditarod, making all the preparations necessary for the race, registering, training, and finally competing.

# Sites to See

## Auroras-Paintings In the Sky

This site will show you what auroras look like from space and on Earth





In January 17, 2002, at the opening of the [Alaska State Museums exhibit](#) commemorating the 75th anniversary of the flag's adoption, Alaska Lieutenant Governor Fran Ulmar paid tribute to Benny Benson.

"Benny Benson made a tremendous impact on Alaska history when he submitted his entry that featured the Big Dipper and the North Star. His story is a wonderful example of how one young person can really make a difference. The flag story continues to remind us of the importance of listening to the ideas and opinions of young people."

## Reading Comprehension.

Some wags like to joke that the mosquito is Alaska's state bird but we know better. The designation belongs instead to the willow ptarmigan (*Lagopus lagopus*), a stout sociable bird that is common across Alaska's high treeless country. In 1955, as leaders of the Territory of Alaska were drafting a constitution in preparation for statehood, Alaska school children chose the willow ptarmigan as a symbol of the Great Land. It became the official state bird when Alaska was made the 49th state in 1960.

The willow ptarmigan is distinguished by its use of camouflage as protection against predators, changing its plumage from light brown in summer to snow white in winter. Another distinctive feature, its feathered feet, helps this sedentary bird negotiate the frozen ground. The willow ptarmigan is the largest of three "Arctic grouse" found in Alaska, which also include the rock and the white-tailed ptarmigan.

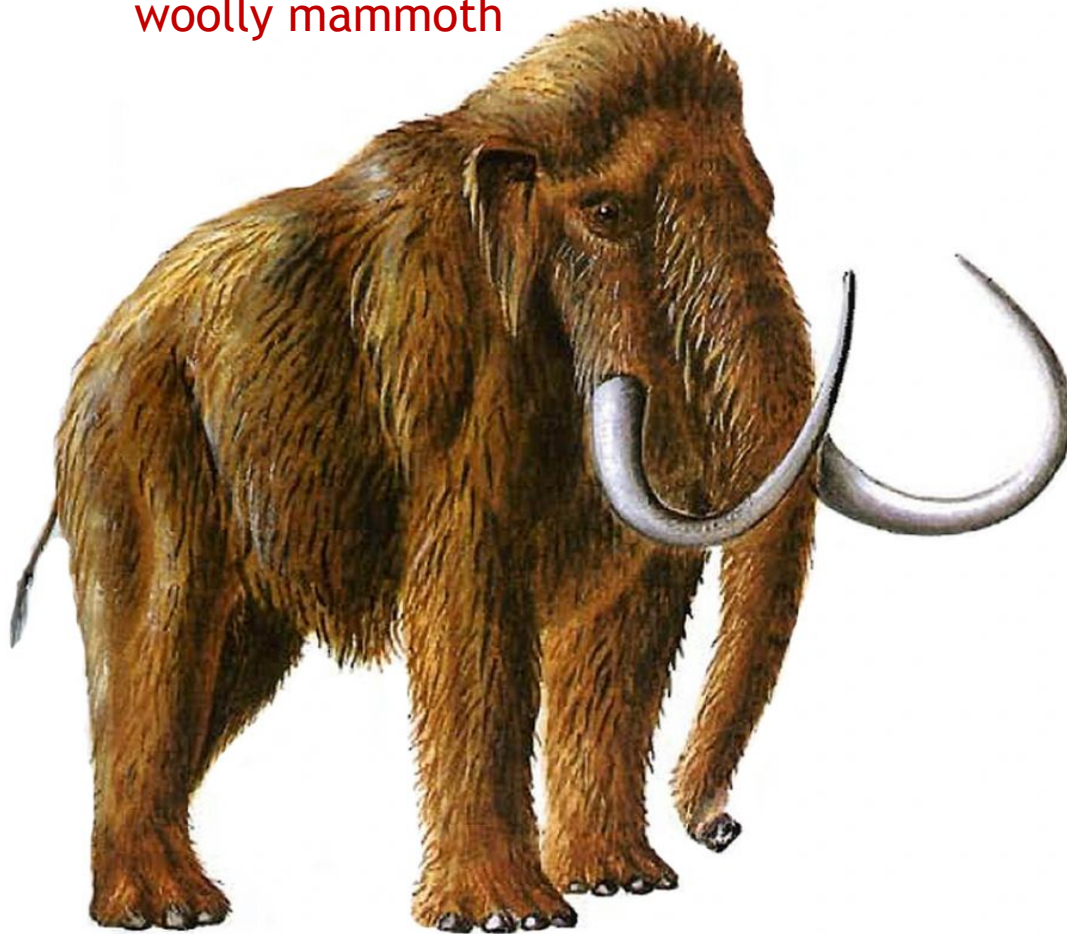
Ptarmigan are sociable in winter and usually feed and roost close together in the snow. In spring, they travel to their breeding grounds in flocks of several thousand. These flocks disperse in summer as the males elbow for foraging room on the tundra. Unlike other grouse, the male willow ptarmigan often takes responsibility for the young, defending them against predators.

The willow ptarmigan occupies a broad range throughout Canada, Scandinavia, Finland and Russia and is closely related to the famous red grouse of Scotland.

### Willow Ptarmigan



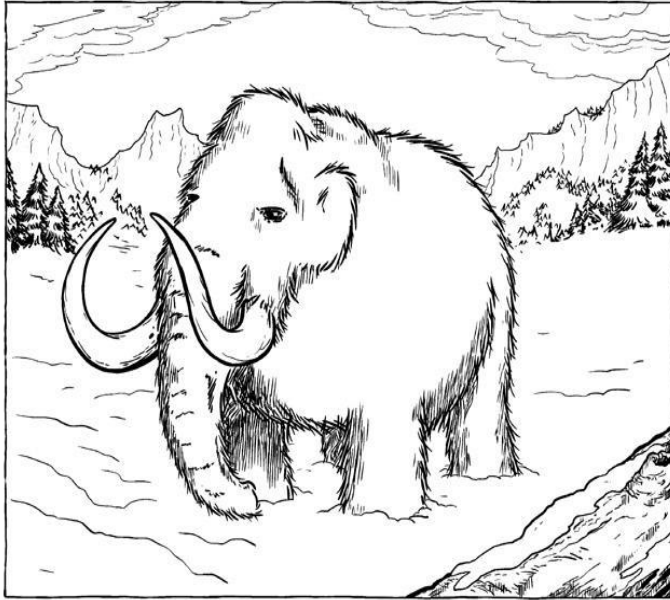
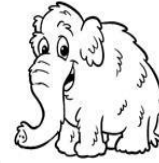
woolly mammoth





# THE WOOLLY MAMMOTH

Fact Sheet



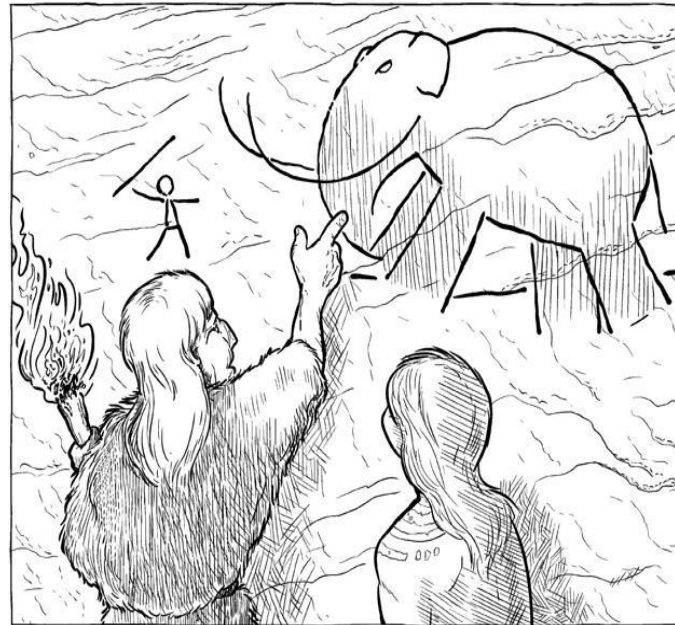
**T**he woolly mammoth was a species of mammoth that roamed northern Eurasia and North America during the last ice age, between 200,000 and 4,000 years ago. It coexisted with early humans, who used its bones and tusks to make art, tools, and shelter.

## APPEARANCE

Woolly mammoths were adapted to survive cold ice age temperatures. Their bodies were covered with fur, and their ears and tails were small to reduce the risk of frostbite. They had large domed heads, shoulder heights reaching almost 10 feet, and could weigh up to 6 tons.

## MAMMOTHS AND HUMANS

Woolly mammoths started to coexist with humans approximately 30,000 to 40,000 years ago. Humans hunted woolly mammoths for their ivory and bones, and scavenged their carcasses after they had been killed by other predators.



## EXTINCTION

Woolly mammoths went extinct about 4,000 years ago, mainly due to climate change, which led to the disappearance of their habitat. Hunting by humans may also have contributed to their extinction.

Thank

You

