

Name _____

Reindeer Research Mission: Fact or Fiction? Answer Key

Part 1 – Fact or Fiction Answers:

1. **F** – Reindeer are real mammals that live in Arctic regions.
2. **F** – Both male and female reindeer do grow antlers; this is unique among deer species.
3. **FI** – Flying reindeer are part of holiday folklore; magic oats are fictional.
4. **F** – Reindeer hooves adapt to the seasons and help with traction in icy conditions.
5. **FI** – Rudolph and his glowing nose are fictional (created in a 1939 story).
6. **F** – Reindeer migration can reach over 3,000 miles—true fact!
7. **FI** – While Santa’s reindeer are fun characters, there’s no scientific proof they live in stables at the North Pole.
8. **F** – Reindeer noses really do warm air before it enters their lungs.
9. **FI** – Sugar cookies and cocoa are human treats; reindeer do not eat these.
10. **F** – Wild reindeer eat moss, lichen, and tundra vegetation.

Part 2 – Example Responses:

(Answers will vary, but here are samples.)

Statement #3

This is fiction. While it’s fun to believe Santa’s reindeer fly, animals don’t have the ability to fly or eat magic oats in real life.

Statement #8

This is a fact. Scientists have studied reindeer and found that their noses really help warm the freezing air, which helps them breathe better in cold weather.