

White-tailed deer



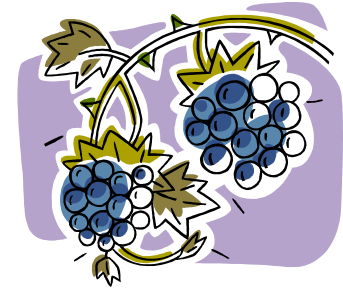
- **Physical Characteristics**

- The coat is pewter gray in winter and russet in summer above and lighter below. The tail is brown above and white below. The hair is tubular, stiff and brittle. The male has antlers consisting of one main beam with minor branches. They have no upper incisor teeth.
- Size of average adult
- height: 3 - 3.5 feet at shoulder
- weight: male = 200 - 300 pounds, female = 70 - 200 pounds
- Approximate life span is 10 years.



Diet

- Wild: leaves, grass, buds, berries, bark, wild grapes, apples, acorns



Behavior

- Bucks usually solitary
- Does travel in small groups especially if they have fawns
- Herds form in winter for warmth and disperse in summer
- Generally stay in thick cover during the day, will emerge at dusk to feed and return to cover at dawn
- Antlers are shed from January to March, and the new set begins to grow about April or May losing their velvet in August or September
- Breeding season: October - January

Environmental/Global

- Habitat: areas with enough vegetation for concealment, but not dense forests
- Distribution: much of north and central North America, northern South America

