



How do scientists use footprints to study bears?

ACTIVITY SHEET 1

GRADES 2-3

Brown Bear Identification Guide

Help scientists learn which bears have visited the river! Use the pictures, rear footprints and descriptions in the Brown Bear Identification Guide below to complete Activity Sheets 2 and 3.



Sky

Adult Female

NOTES: Large adult female with dark coat and long claws. Sky visits the river to catch fish to eat. She needs to feed her growing cubs.



Chinook

Adult Male

NOTES: Adult male with wide paws and short claws. Chinook often competes with other bears for fishing spots on the river.



Amber

Young cub

NOTES: Amber's paw is thin and long. She watches her mother's every move – learning the best ways to open clams or fend off wolves. If Sky happens to catch a fish, Amber will be there to share it with her.



Scout

Young cub

NOTES: Scout's paw is wide and short. Scout is a fearless adventurer who puts his nose everywhere – especially where it doesn't belong. Scout can get into trouble, but Sky is always there to protect Scout.



Use a local field guide to explore your backyard or a park near your home!
Have an adult help you make plaster molds of any footprints you find.

Disney nature

BEARS

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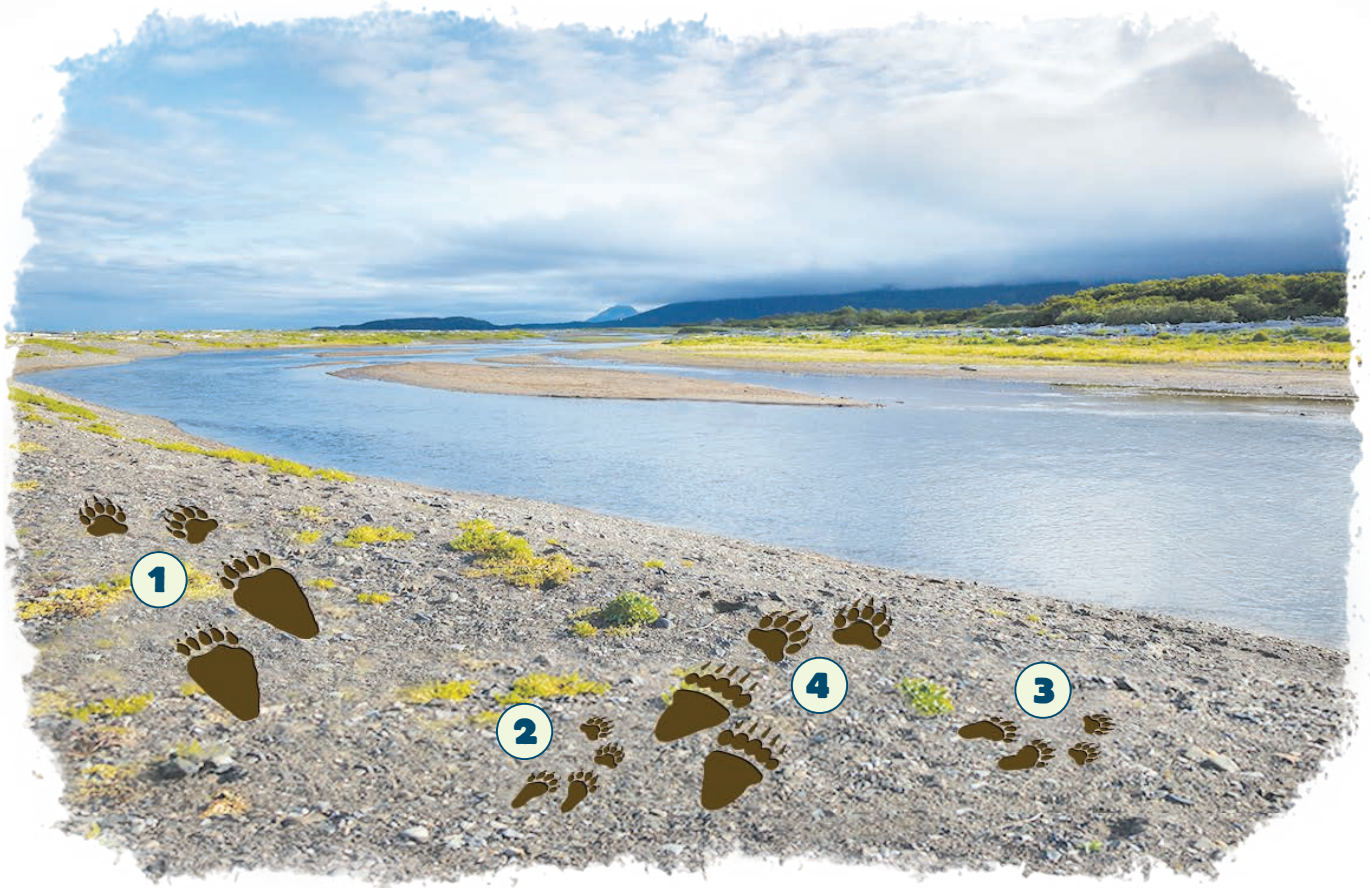
How do scientists use footprints to study bears?

ACTIVITY SHEET 2

GRADES 2-3

Which Brown Bears Visited This River?

The river is a popular spot for brown bears in Katmai National Park! Use the back footprints from the brown bear Identification Guide to decide which prints belong to each bear.



Based on my observations, these brown bear footprints belong to:

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

Why do you think bears are visiting this river?

Do you think this area of the river should be protected? Why or why not?



Use a field guide to look for and identify animal footprints in your backyard or near your school!

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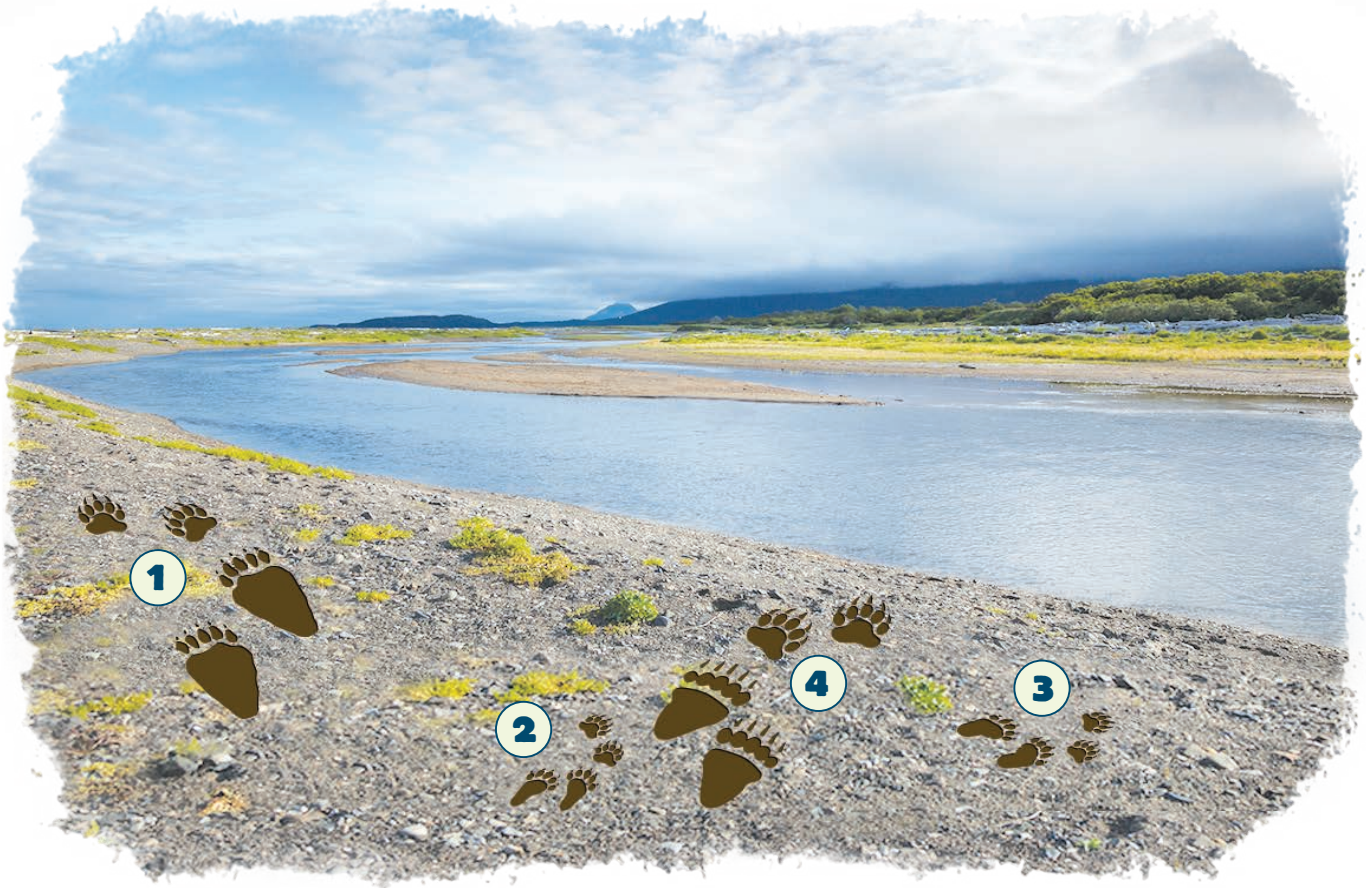
ACTIVITY SHEET 2

GRADES 2-3

ANSWER KEY

Which Brown Bears Visited This River?

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Based on my observations, these brown bear footprints belong to:

1. Chinook 2. Amber
3. Scout 4. Sky

Why do you think bears are visiting this river?

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