

My Wetland Book on Mountain lion



Written by José

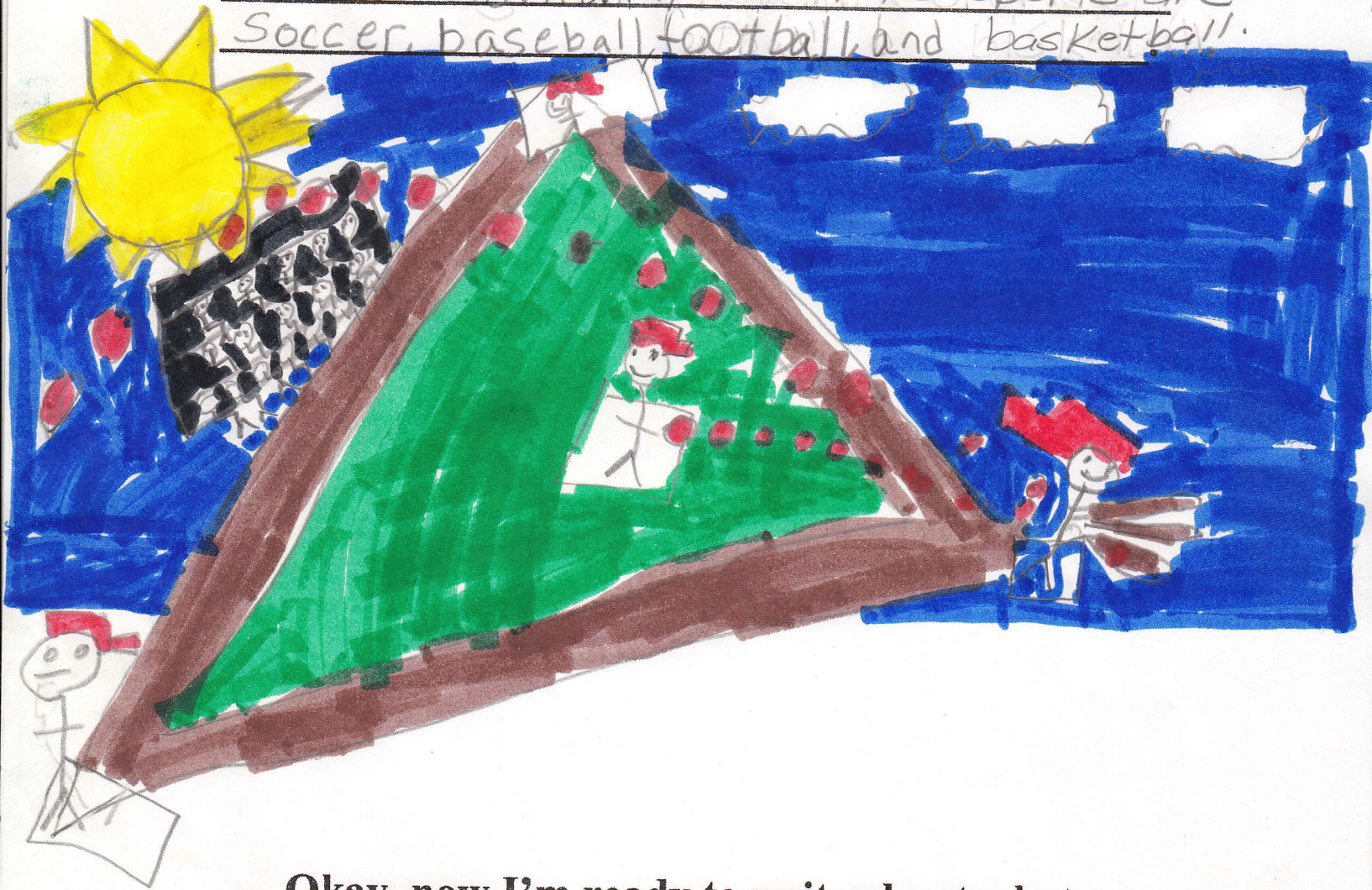
Hello fellow students. My name is Jorge and I'm a 5th grade student at an elementary school in Watsonville. I'm in a special class where we are learning about *wetlands* and I'd like to share with you about what *wetlands* are, how *important* they are, and an *animal* of particular interest to me, the Mountain lion.



About me...

But before I start my book, I'd like to share with you about some of my favorite things.

I like to eat apple Pie and ice cream. My favorite place to visit is the Movies. My favorite sports are Soccer, baseball, football, and basketball.



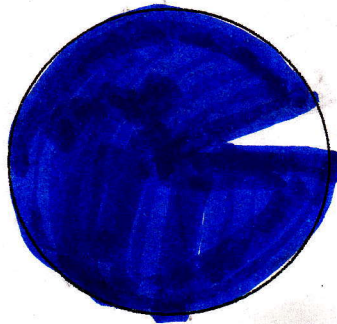
Okay, now I'm ready to write about what *wetlands* are, their *importance*, and facts about one of my favorite *animals*, The Mountain Lion.

First, *wetlands* are essentially a very unique ecosystem in that the land is always, or at least most of time, wet- hence the name, *wetlands*. This ecosystem has special characteristics such as:

- It's wet and the land muddy and squishy
- Fresh water and shallow water
- Plants that grow in water: lily pads, duckweed & cattails



Second, 90% of the wetlands have been destroyed due to development and unsustainable farming practices. That means, only 10% remain today. We must conserve and protect this ecosystem.



pie chart

90%

percentage

$\frac{90}{100}$

fraction

0.90

decimal

Third, we are very fortunate to literally have *wetlands* as part of our community. They serve many *important* purposes, such as:

- filter water clean
- absorb water controlling floods
- habitat for plants and animals



Fourth, there is a particular *animal* of interest to me, namely the mountain lion. I chose this *animal* because it has sharp claws and has gold fur color.



In the following paragraphs, I will briefly discuss what I researched about my animal of interest, the Mountain lion. I will cover the following: classification, common name, scientific name, physical characteristics, behavior, if the animal camouflages, adaptations, range, migratory, population, status, reproduction, habitat, prey, predators, where animal fits in food web, and whether the Ohlone Indians used the animal for food, clothing, or other purposes. *I hope you enjoy the book!*

Classification

The Mountain Lion is a Mammal because it has a backbone. It is classified as a mammal because it's warm blooded, has fur, and gives birth to live babies.

Names

The mountain lion has two names. The common name is Mountain lion, and the *scientific name* is Felis concolor.

In science, the *scientific name* is the genus and species of the animal or plant.

Physical characteristics... my animal looks like...

My animal has a long tail and
curved, black-tipped claws.
They are about 8 feet and
their tail is 3 feet long.
Only the cubs have spots.

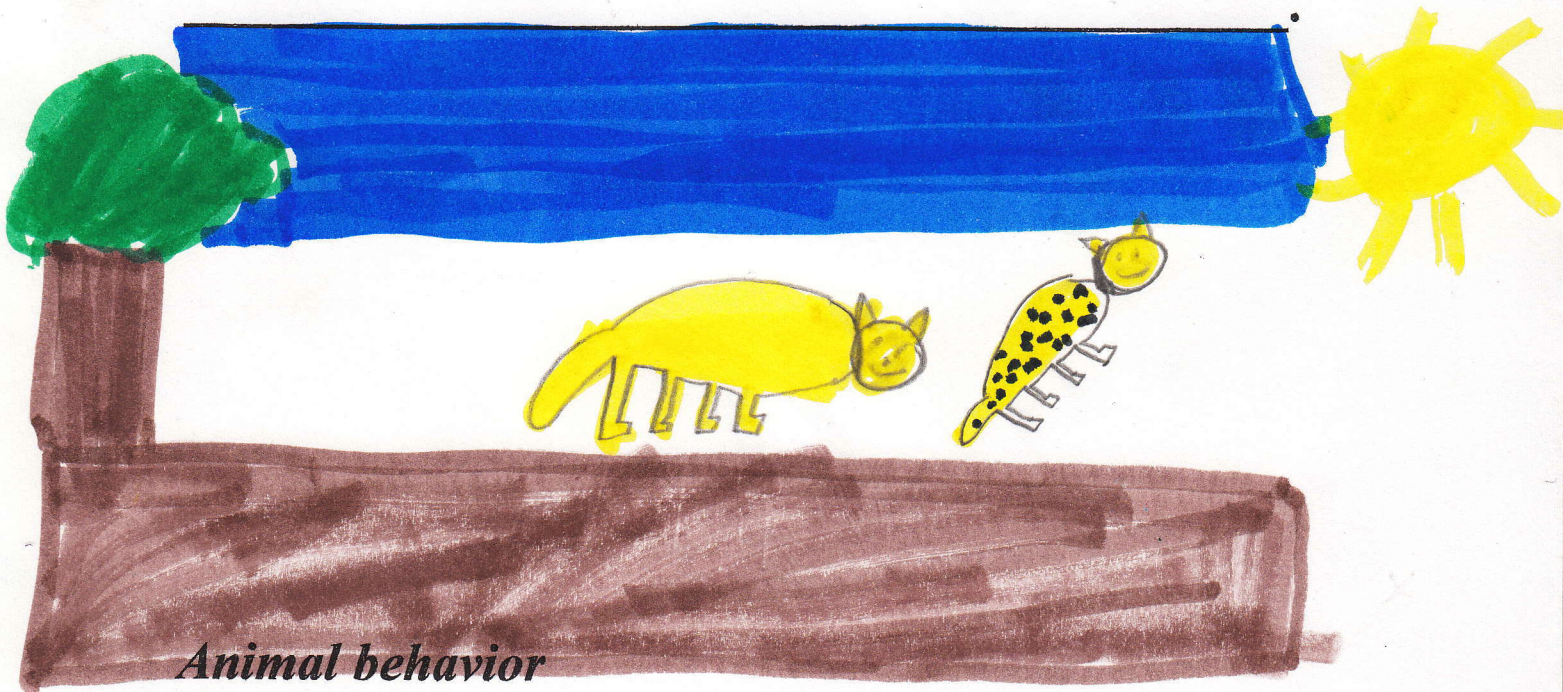


Camouflage...does my animal blend into its environment?

After looking at my animal and reading more about it, I realize that it can camouflage
in dry grass, but in green grass, it can
be seen.

Adaptations

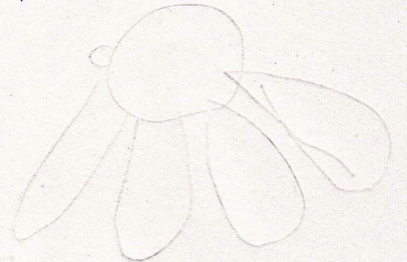
My animal is unique because of their
impressive leaping ability;
they are able to jump
from cliffs more than 18 feet high.



Animal behavior

The way I would describe the behavior of my animal is that they are solitary hunters;
they are ambush predators. They are
also known as scavengers. When they
kill, the mountain lion will
usually drag its prey to a protected
area.

Range



The Mountain lion is found in Canada
and Argentina. The mountain lion
has the largest range of any
mammal.

Migratory...does it travel from one location to another during seasons?

The Mountain lions migrate. For
example, the mountain lion migrates
from Nevada to California.

Population

The population of my animal is 30,000
mountain lions in the western
USA.

Status

The status of the Mountain lion tells me
whether it is endangered, threatened, or stable.
What I found out is that the Mountain lion is
threatened. I find this
interesting because they have been persecuted
and hunted as a threat to live stock.

Reproduction

The reproduction of the Mountain lion is
from December to march but they
can have babies any time.

Habitat...home

The Mountain lion's habitat is from
deserts to humid coast range
forest from sea level to
10,000 feet elevation. They
live where there are a lot of
animals and where they can hide in bushes.



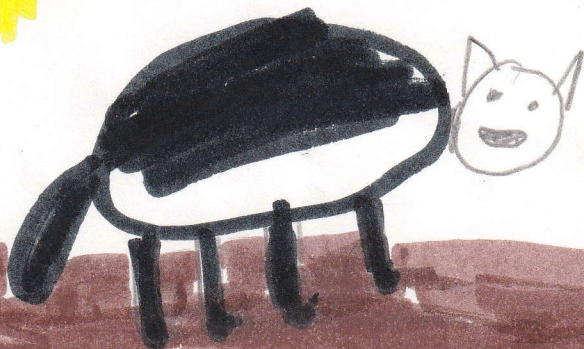
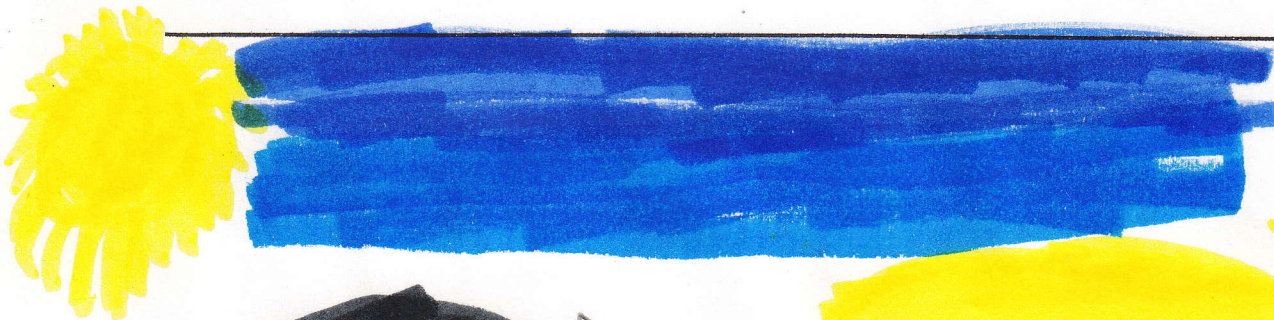
Prey and predator...(to eat and to be eaten)

The prey my animal eats are: Deer, mice,
Squirrels, and porcupines.

My animal eats other things such as:

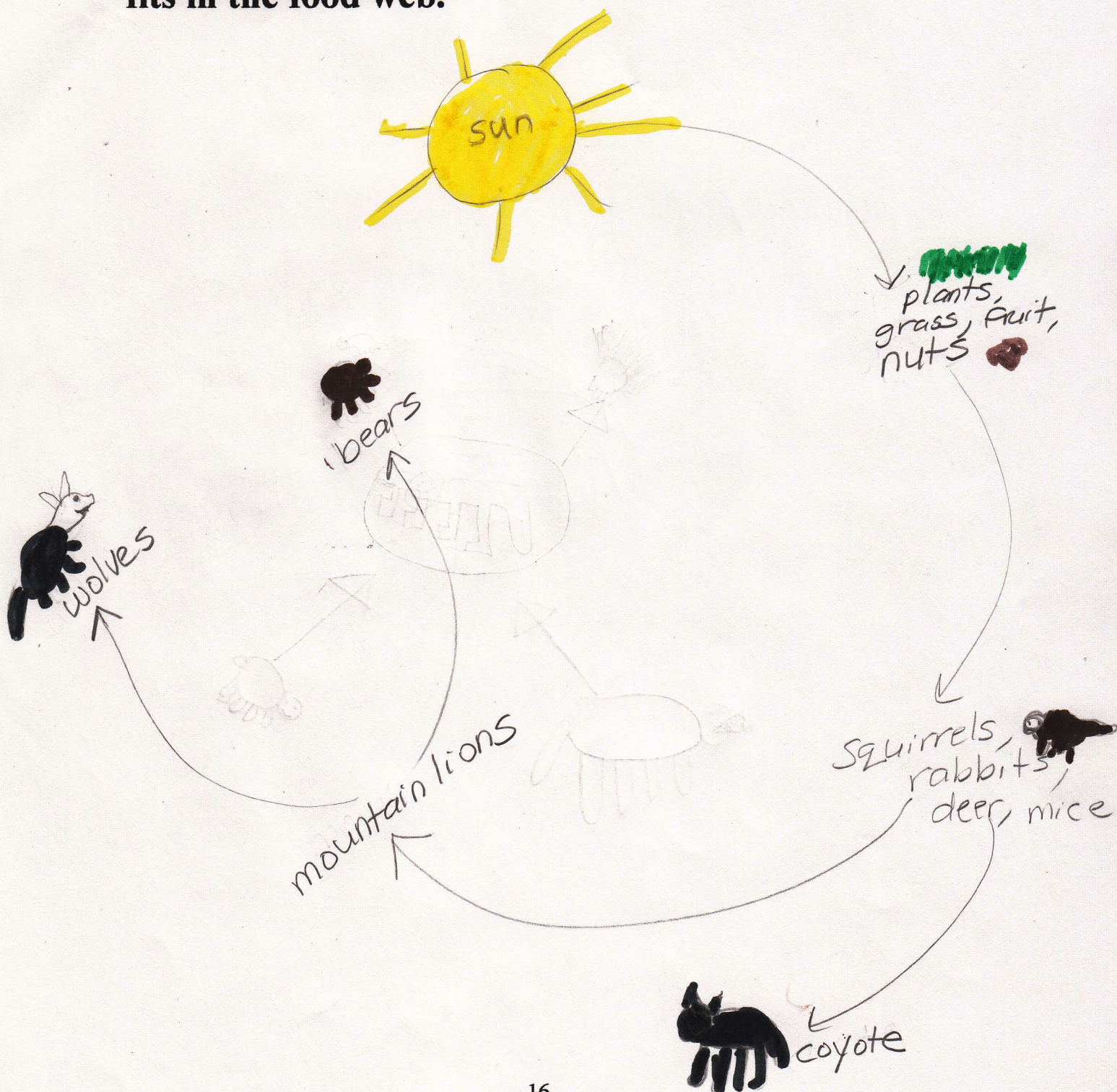


The predators that eat me are: other
mountain lions, wolves, and bears.



Food web

My animal is a Mountain Lion. The following picture demonstrates where my animal fits in the food web.



Ohlone Indians

I'm curious to see if the Ohlone Indians used the Mountain lion in anyway, for example, for food, clothing, or for other purposes. What I discovered was that their remains
are found in ohlone shell mounds.



References

(books, articles, web-sites, etc.)

WWW.biokids.umich.edu
WWW.thefreeresource.com
WWW.arizona.sierraclub.org

Thank you for reading my book. I hope you enjoyed it and learned a lot about the Mountain lion. Please feel free to *comment* about my book and also, test your knowledge by answering the following *questions* below. I look forward to hearing from you.

Comments for me:

Questions for you: (See if you can answer these...)

1. How does the mountain lion camouflage?
2. Why do other Mountain lions kill other mountain lions?
3. Did the oblonge indians hunt the mountain lion?