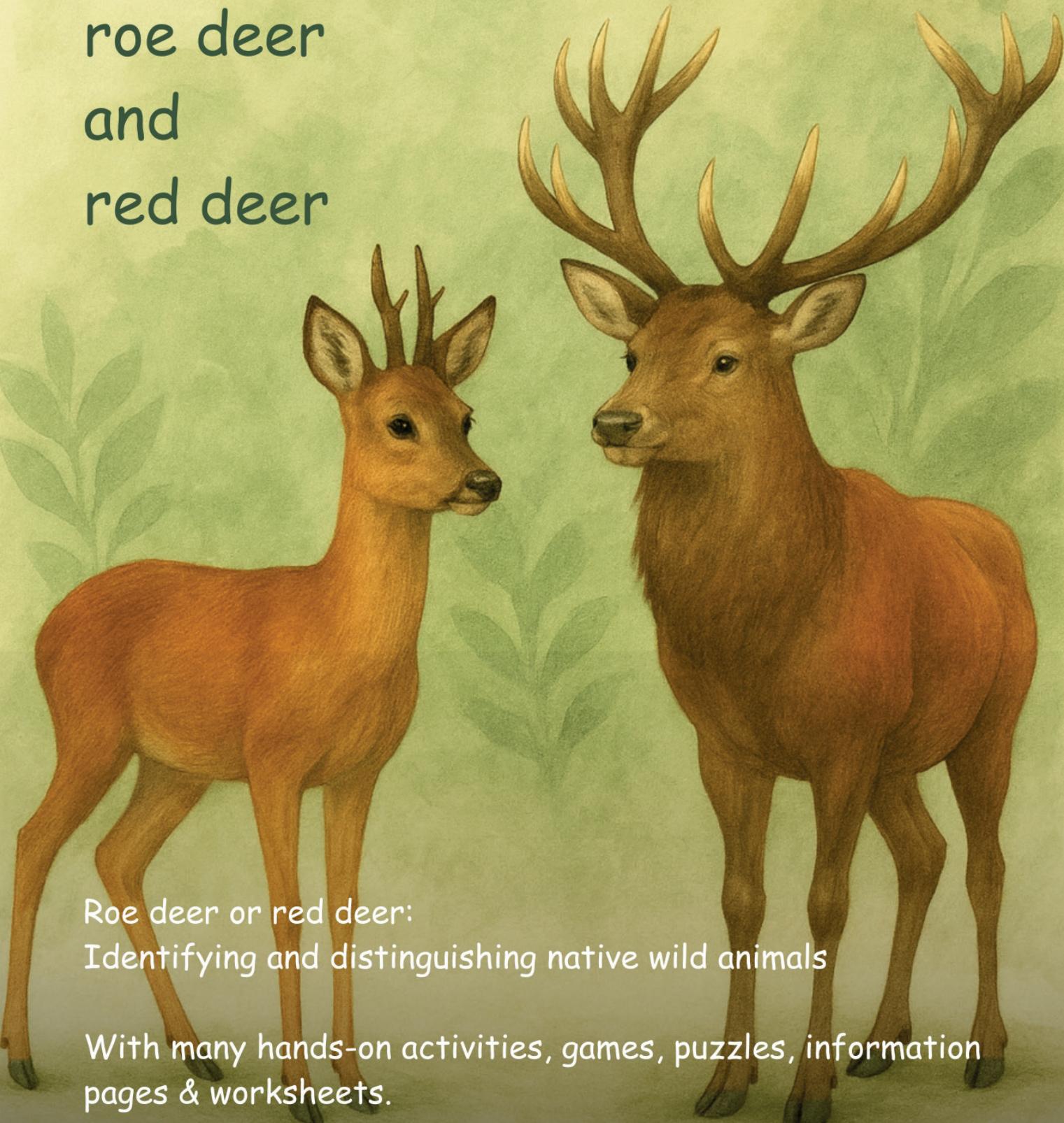


IDENTIFYING NATIVE WILD ANIMALS

roe deer
and
red deer



Roe deer or red deer:
Identifying and distinguishing native wild animals

With many hands-on activities, games, puzzles, information
pages & worksheets.



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WHO AM I?



roe deer or red deer?

ROE DEER

Antlers:
only the roebuck has
small antlers.

Size:
small and delicate

Sounds:
soft "whining" and barking

Habitat:
Field edges, forests,
meadows

Mating season:
Summer



female

male

fawn

RED DEER



Size:

tall and strong

Sounds:

loud "roaring"

Habitat:

deep forest, mountains

Antlers:
mighty antlers
on a red deer bull

Mating season:
Autumn
(Rutting season)

female

fawn

male

Deer or stag – which is which?



Symbolfoto: iStock/Matt_Gibson

Many people think that a roe deer is the female of a red deer – but that's not true! Roe deer and red deer are two completely different species. Although both belong to the large deer family, they live very differently. The roe deer is rather small and delicate. It often lives at the edge of the forest or in meadows. In summer, it enjoys eating fresh herbs, buds, and leaves. In winter, it seeks out quiet places and eats what nature still offers – for example, blackberry leaves or bark. The buck, or male, has small antlers with three points. The female is called a doe, and the young are called fawns with pretty white spots on their fur.

The red deer, on the other hand, is much larger and stronger. A fully grown red deer can weigh more than twice as much as a roe deer! The male has an impressive, widely branched set of antlers. During the rutting season in autumn, the stag bellows loudly – you can even hear it from a great distance. The female deer is called a hind, and her offspring are called calves. While roe deer are often alone or in pairs, red deer live in large groups – especially in winter. Both animals are very shy and pay close attention to sounds and smells. That's why you rarely get to see them up close.



Tip for the outdoors:
If you find animal tracks in the forest, pay attention to their size:
Deer tracks are small and narrow – like a heart.
Red deer tracks are larger and rounder – almost like a frying pan.





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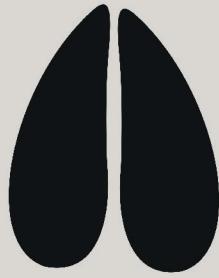
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The difference between roe deer and red deer

Roe deer

Size from 60 to 75 cm and weighs between 15 and 25 kilograms



4 - 5 cm

Size from 65 to 85 cm and weighs between 20 and 30 kilograms

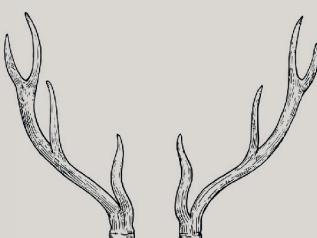


ca. 3 cm



Red Deer

Size of 1 to 1.20 meters and a weight of 90 to 130 kilograms



6 - 9 cm

Size of 1.30 to 1.5 meters and a weight of up to 200 kilograms



4 - 7 cm

Name: Roe Deer

Scientific Name: *Capreolus capreolus*

Class: Mammals

Order: Ungulates

Family: Deer

Size: 90-140 cm, shoulder height up to 85 cm

Weight: 15-22 kg

Age: Up to 12 years

Diet: Exclusively grasses and herbs, shoots, buds, and leaves

Distribution: Europe

Native: Native to Germany and Europe

Lifestyle: Primarily crepuscular (active during dawn and dusk)

Habitat: Found in all types of forests, and even in open, almost treeless fields

Mating Season: July - early August

Social Behavior: Solitary, but sometimes in groups during the winter

Enemies: Humans, wild boar, lynx, wolf, and fox

Endangered: Not endangered

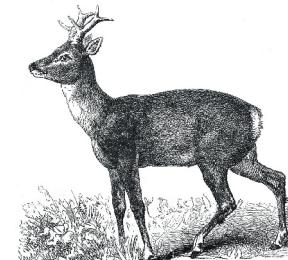


Illustration: iStock/Mellok

Name: Red Deer

Scientific Name: *Cervus elaphus*

Class: Mammals

Order: Ungulates

Family: Deer

Size: Up to 2.5 meters; maximum shoulder height of 1.5 meters

Weight: 160 - 205 kg

Lifespan: Up to 20 years

Diet: Grasses and herbs, shoots, buds, leaves, field crops, tree

fruits. Winter: Lichens, shoots, tree bark

Distribution: Europe

Native: Yes

Lifestyle: Active both day and night

Habitat: Open forests

Mating Season: Late August to early October

Social Behavior: Primarily lives in herds

Enemies: Humans, wolves, lynx, brown bears

Endangered Status: Not endangered



Foto: iStock/Matt_Gibson



Illustration: iStock/Hein Nouwens





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Game idea: „roe deer or red deer?

Here's how it works:
Children receive cards with pictures and symbols.

They sort them into two categories:

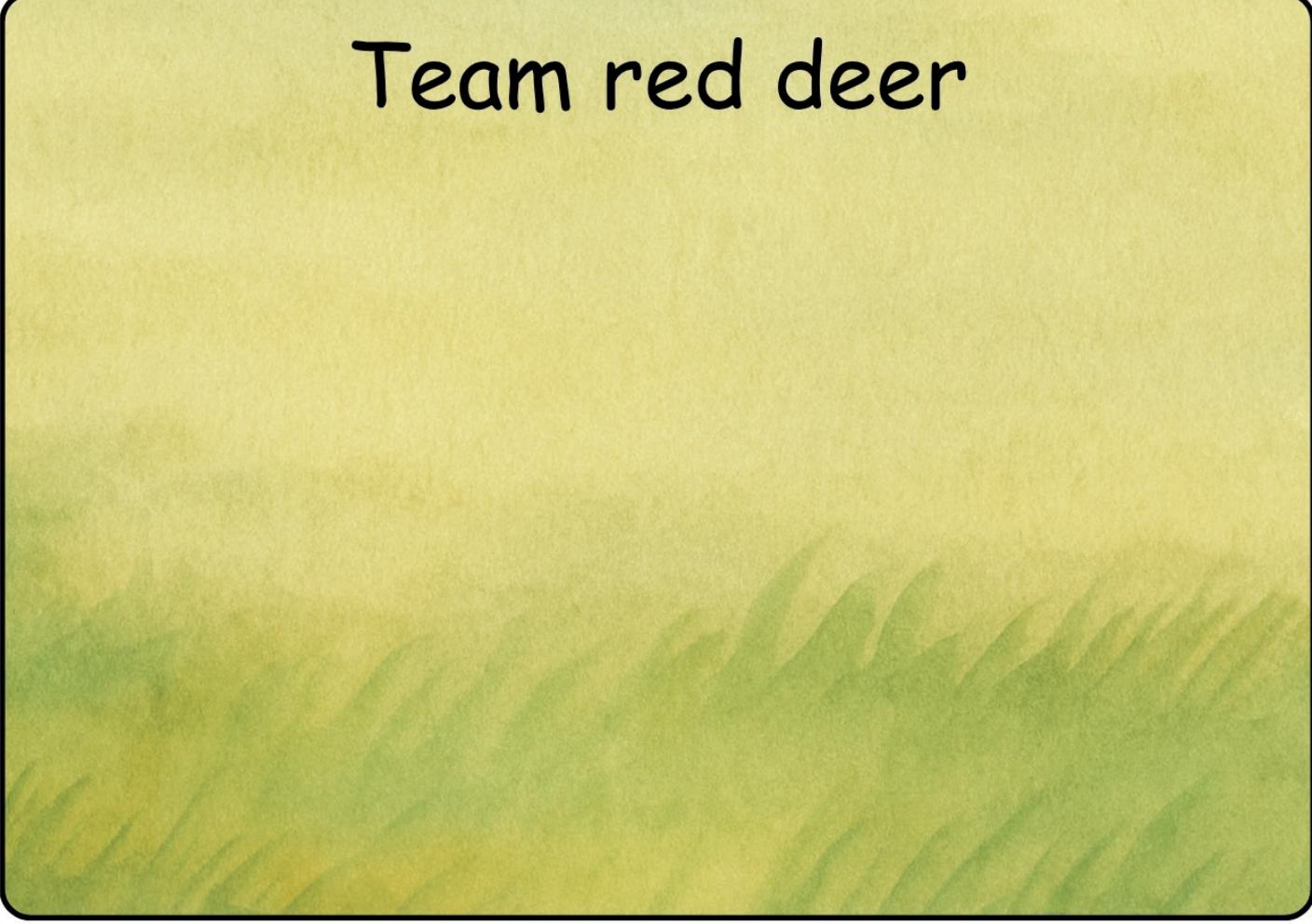
Team Deer or Team Red Deer.

Educational benefits:

Trains observation and comparison skills; promotes matching and language development



Team roe deer



Team red deer

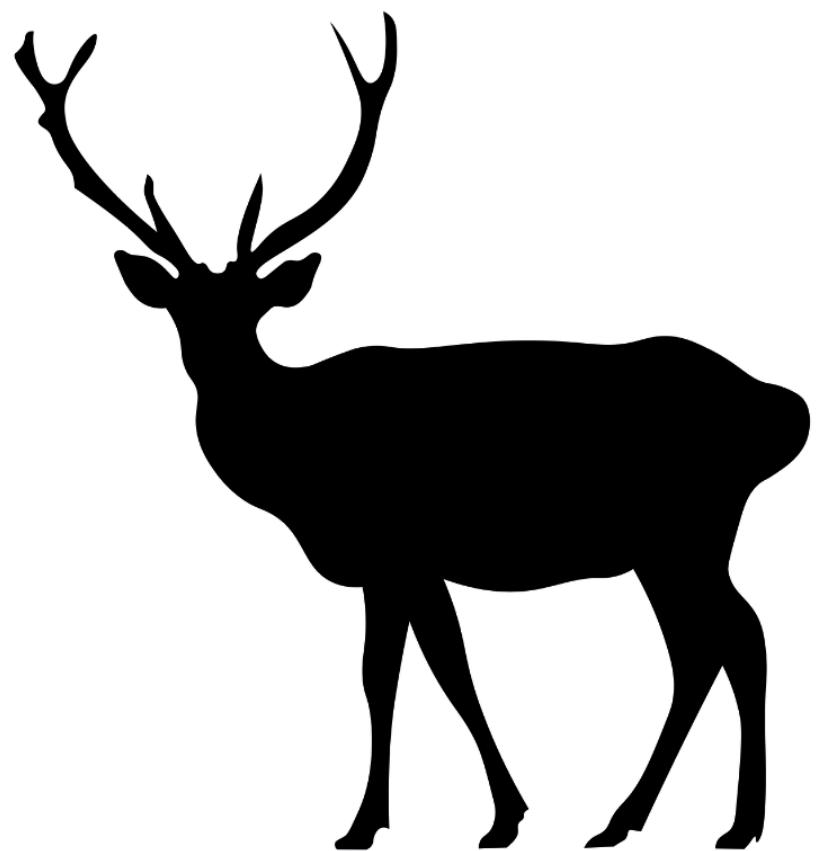
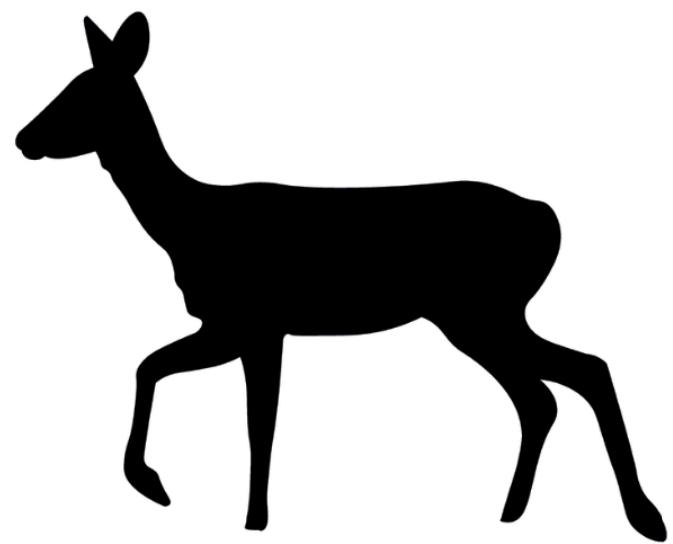






Illustration: iStock/ Yuliya Kachan

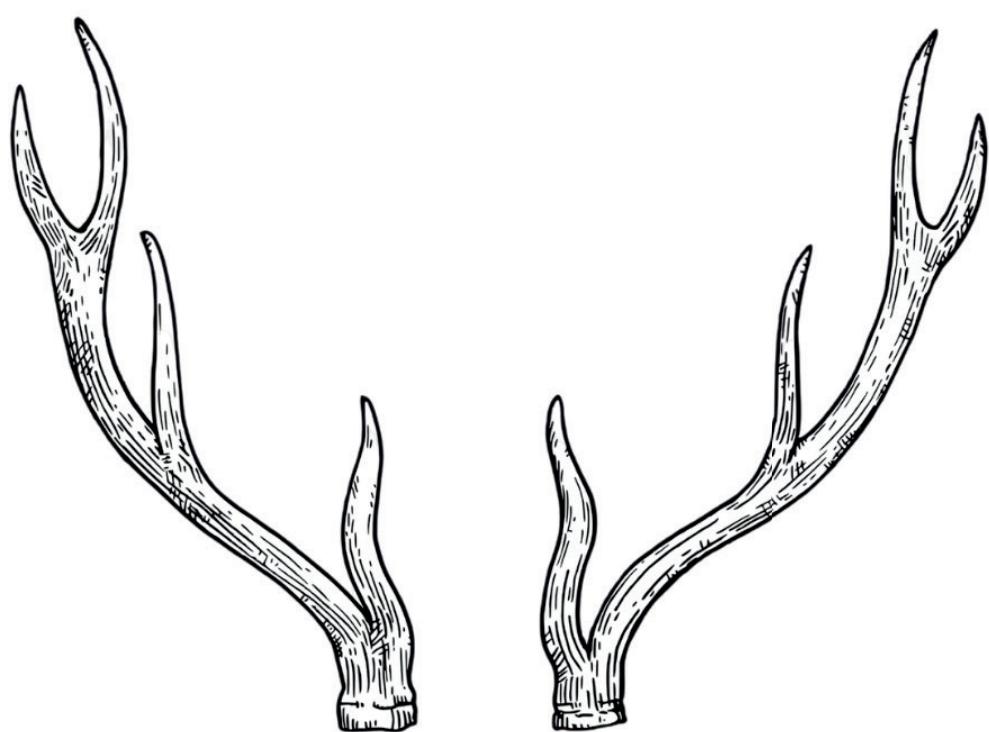


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Wild Animals: The roe deer

Create a fact sheet:

Read the following text carefully and fill in the fields in the fact sheet.

The roe deer, scientifically known as *Capreolus capreolus*, belongs to the class of mammals, the order of even-toed ungulates, and the family of deer. It grows to be 90 to 140 cm long, up to 85 cm tall, and weighs approximately 15 to 22 kg. Roe deer live up to 12 years and feed exclusively on grasses, herbs, buds, shoots, and leaves.

The roe deer is widespread throughout Europe and lives as a crepuscular, solitary animal in forests, along forest edges, in meadows, and even in open fields. The mating season, also known as the rut, takes place from July to the beginning of August. During the rest of the year, the roe deer exhibits rather solitary behavior; in winter, small groups may form.

The roe deer's predators include foxes, lynxes, wolves, wild boars, and humans. In Germany, the roe deer is not considered endangered; however, the preservation of its habitats and quiet areas is important to ensure stable populations.



Name:

Scientific Name

Class:

Order:

Family:

Size:

Weight:

Age:

Diet:

Distribution:

Lifestyle:

Habitat:

Breeding Season:

Social Behavior:

Enemies:

Endangered:



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Name:	Roe deer
Scientific Name	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>
Class:	Mammals
Order:	Even-toed ungulates
Family:	Deer
Size:	90-140 cm, shoulder height up to 85 cm
Weight:	15-22 kg
Age:	Up to 12 years
Diet:	Exclusively grasses, herbs, and leaves
Distribution:	Throughout Europe
Lifestyle:	Primarily crepuscular
Habitat:	Forests, meadows, fields
Breeding Season:	July - early August
Social Behavior:	Solitary and in groups in winter
Enemies:	Humans, wild boar, lynx, wolf, and fox
Endangered:	Least Concern



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Endangered:	Least Concern





Wild Animals: The red deer

Create a fact sheet:

Read the following text carefully and fill in the fields in the fact sheet.

The red deer, scientifically known as *Cervus elaphus*, belongs to the class of mammals, the order of even-toed ungulates, and the family of deer. It grows up to 2.5 meters long, reaches a shoulder height of about 1.50 meters, and weighs between 160 and 205 kilograms. In the wild, it can live up to 20 years.

Deer feed on grasses, herbs, buds, shoots, leaves, and tree and field fruits, and in winter also on bark and lichens. They are widespread in large parts of Europe and are native to Germany. They are active both day and night and prefer open woodlands and light forests.

The mating season, the rut, takes place from the end of August to the beginning of October. Deer usually live in herds and exhibit pronounced social behavior, especially during this time. Their predators include wolves, lynxes, brown bears, and humans. In Germany, the red deer is considered to be of least concern, but it depends on intact habitats.

Name:

Scientific Name

Class:

Order:

Family:

Size:

Weight:

Age:

Diet:

Distribution:

Lifestyle:

Habitat:

Breeding Season:

Social Behavior:

Enemies:

Endangered:



Foto: iStock/ WDnet



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Foto: iStock/ WDnet

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Class:	Mammals
Order:	Even-toed ungulates
Family:	Deer
Size:	Up to 2.5 m; maximum shoulder height 1.50 m
Weight:	160–205 kg
Age:	Up to 20 years
Diet:	Grasses, shoots, leaves, lichens, twigs, tree bark
Distribution:	Throughout Europe
Lifestyle:	Active both day and night
Habitat:	Light woodlands and open woodland landscapes
Breeding Season:	Late August to early October
Social Behavior:	Usually lives in herds
Enemies:	Humans, wolves, lynx, brown bears
Endangered:	Least Concern



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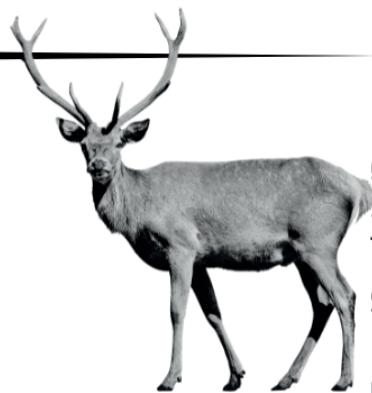


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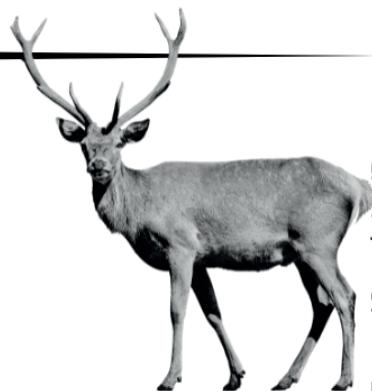


Foto: iStock/WDnet

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Wild animals: The roe deer

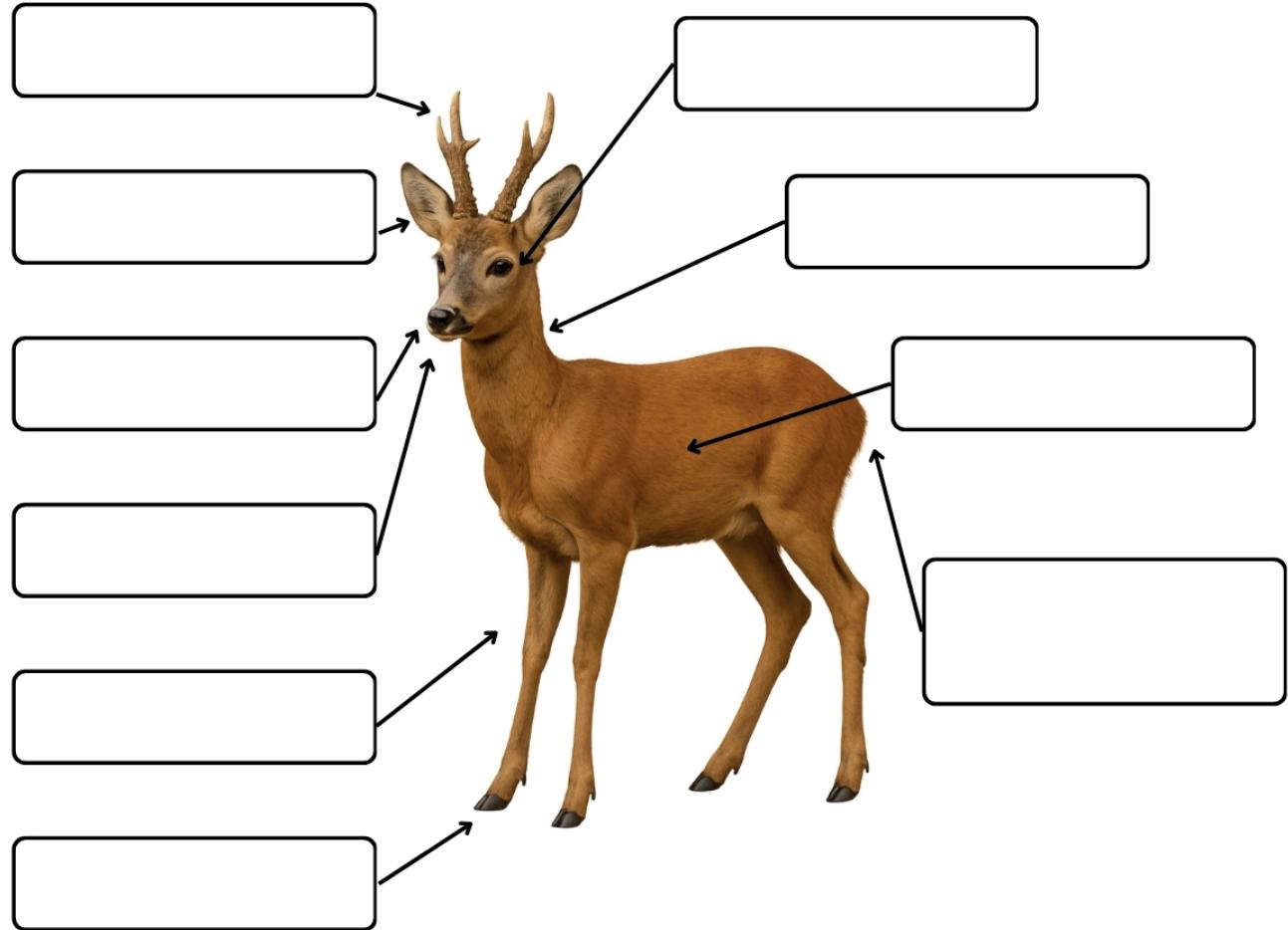
The appearance

The roe deer has a slender, long-legged build with a shoulder height of 60–75 cm and a body length of 1–1.3 m. The head is slender, with large eyes, mobile ears, and a very fine muzzle. The muzzle is narrow and adapted for grazing on herbs.

The neck is long and carries the head in an elevated position. The long legs end in two-part hooves, enabling quick escapes and high leaps. The coat is reddish-brown in summer and grayish-brown in winter.

On the rump is the white rump patch—heart-shaped in does and kidney-shaped in bucks—below which sits the short tail. The buck has short antlers consisting of two points, usually in the form of a spike, forked, or six-pointer. It is shed annually, renewed, and freed from the bast in spring (sweeping).

hooves - mouth - neck - antlers - fur - tail with mirror - ears
- legs - nose - eyes



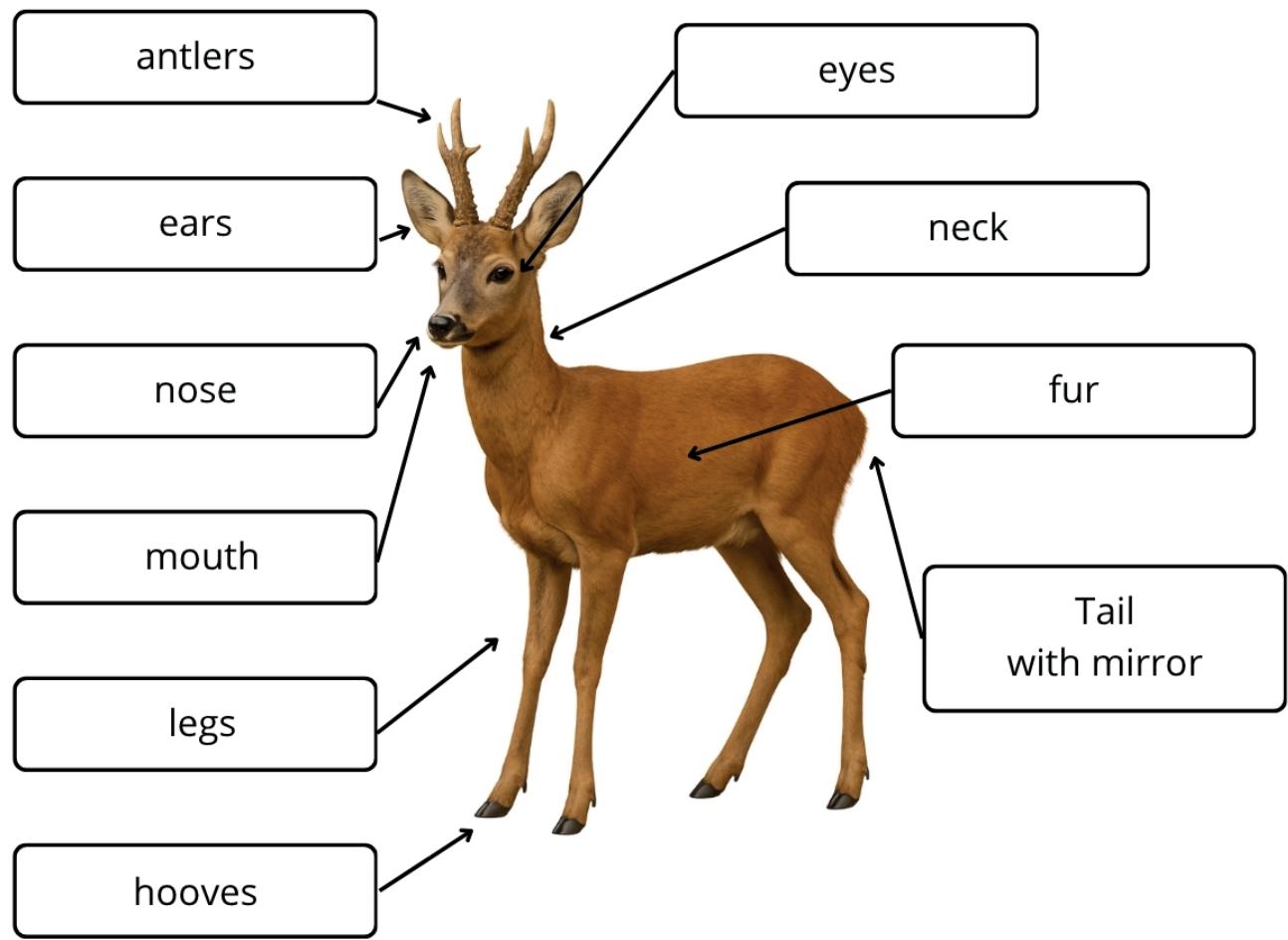
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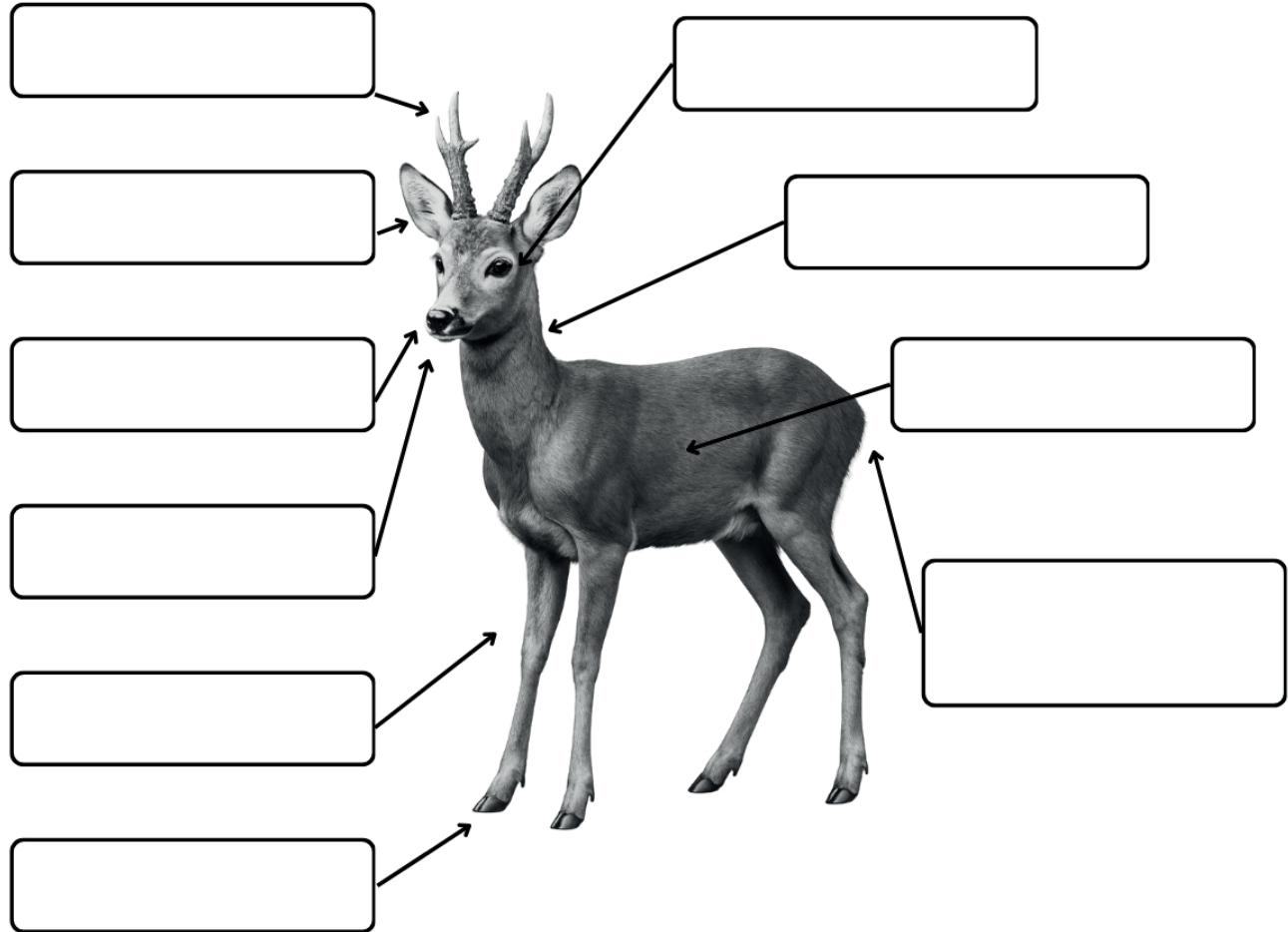
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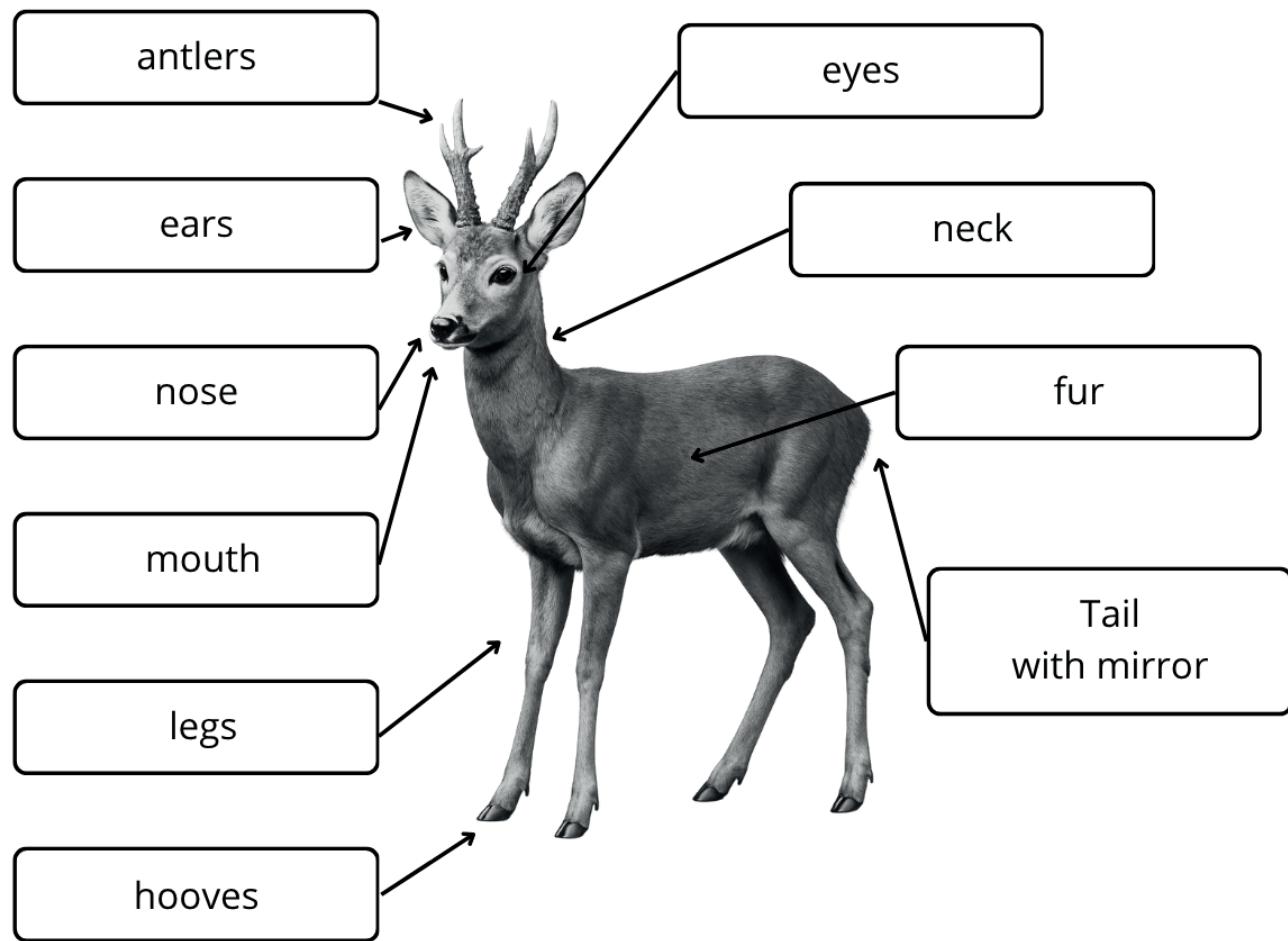
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Wild animals: The deer

The appearance

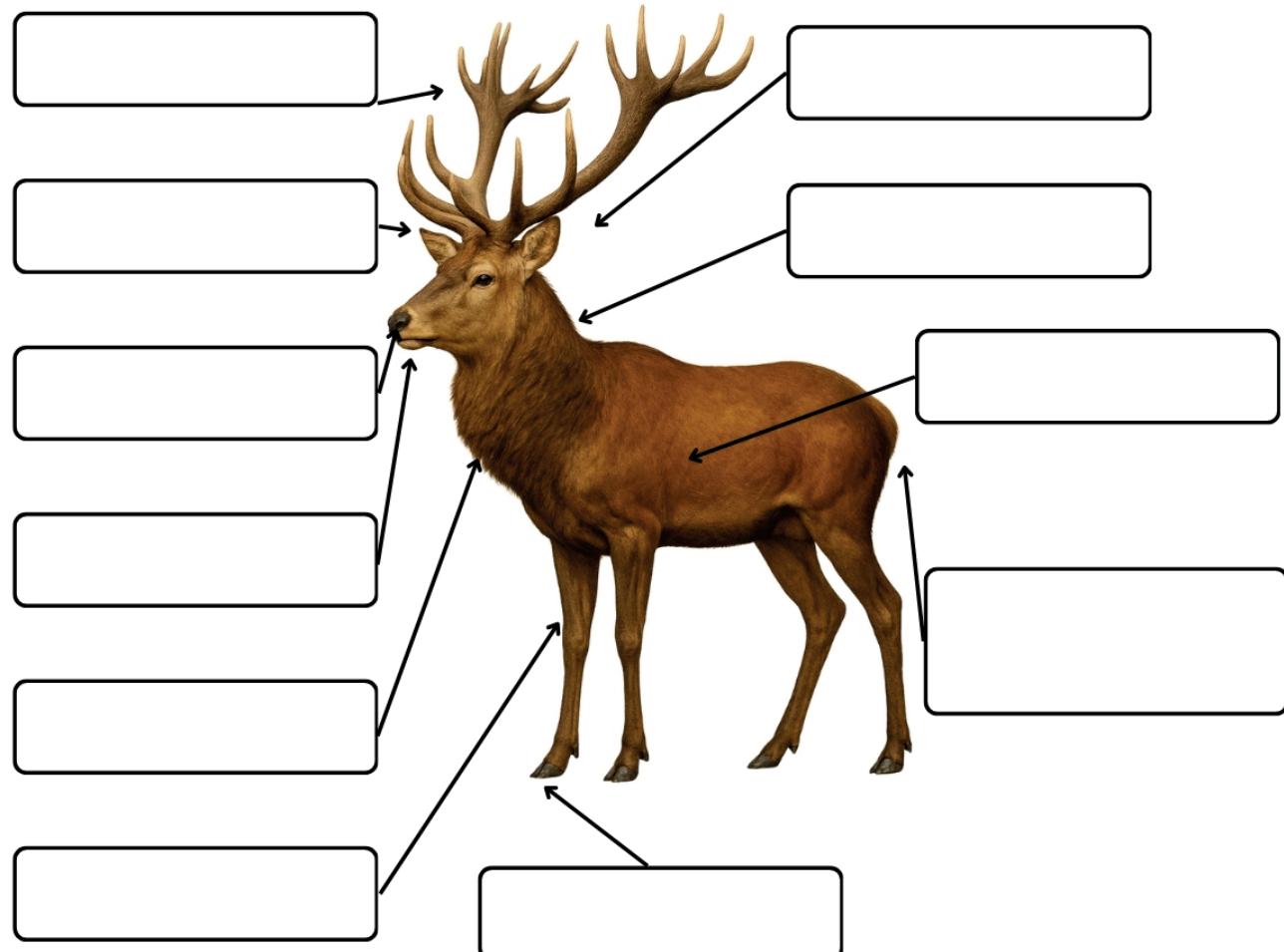
The red deer has a powerful, massive build, standing 100–120 cm tall at the withers and measuring 1.6–2.1 m in body length. Its head is long, with large eyes and mobile ears.

The muzzle is wider than that of the roe deer and adapted for grazing on grasses. The neck is very strong, and in autumn, the bull displays a prominent rutting mane.

The long legs end in two-part hooves and carry the heavy body securely across wooded and open terrain. The coat is reddish-brown in summer and grayish-brown to dark brown in winter.

The yellowish-white rump patch sits above the short tail. The bull carries a highly branched antler consisting of two massive beams with multiple tines. It is shed annually, grows back in spring under velvet, and is stripped of its velvet before the rut.

head - antlers - mouth - neck - nose - ears - hooves - tail with mirror-coat - rutting mane - legs





Wild animals: The deer

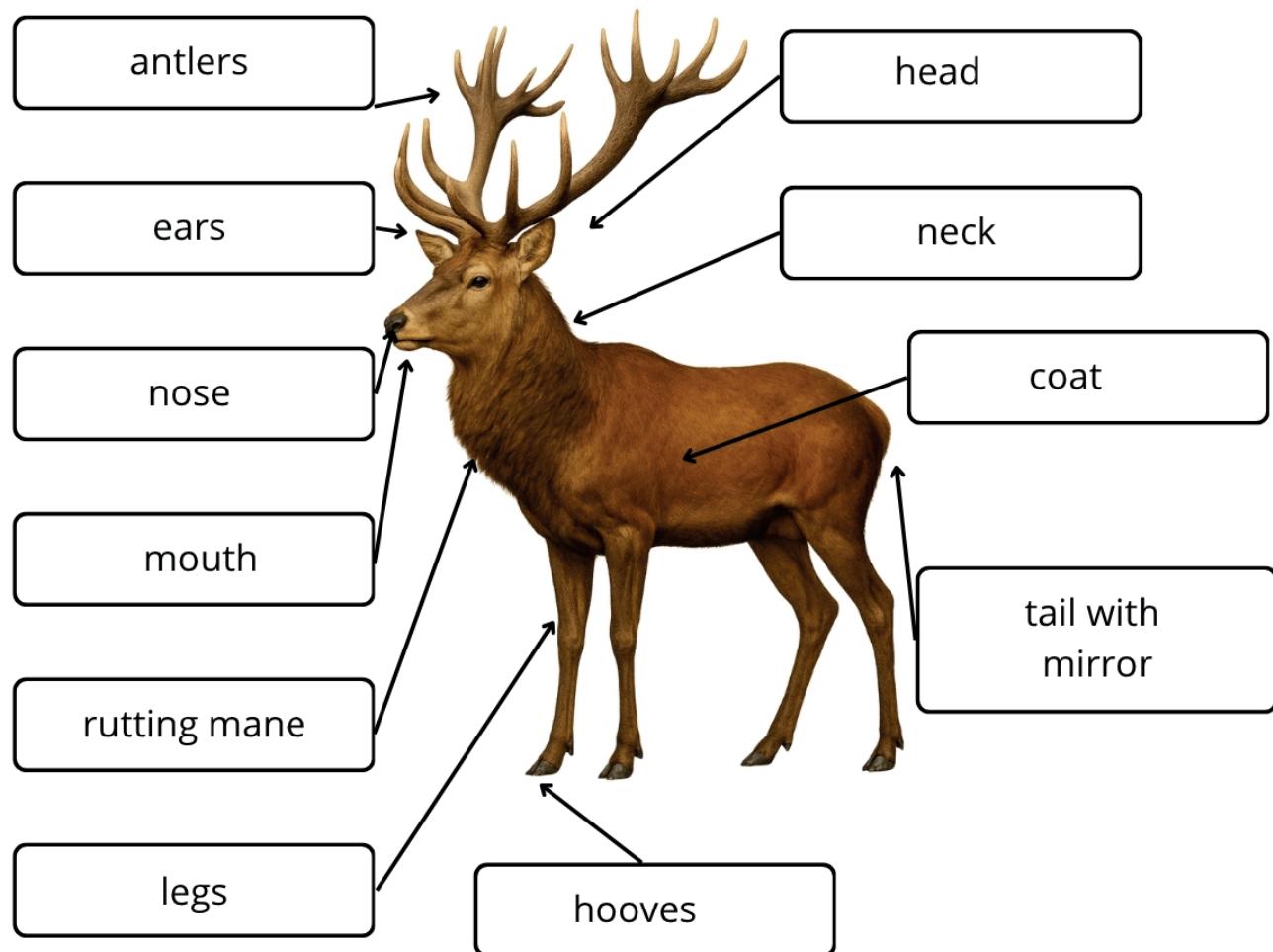
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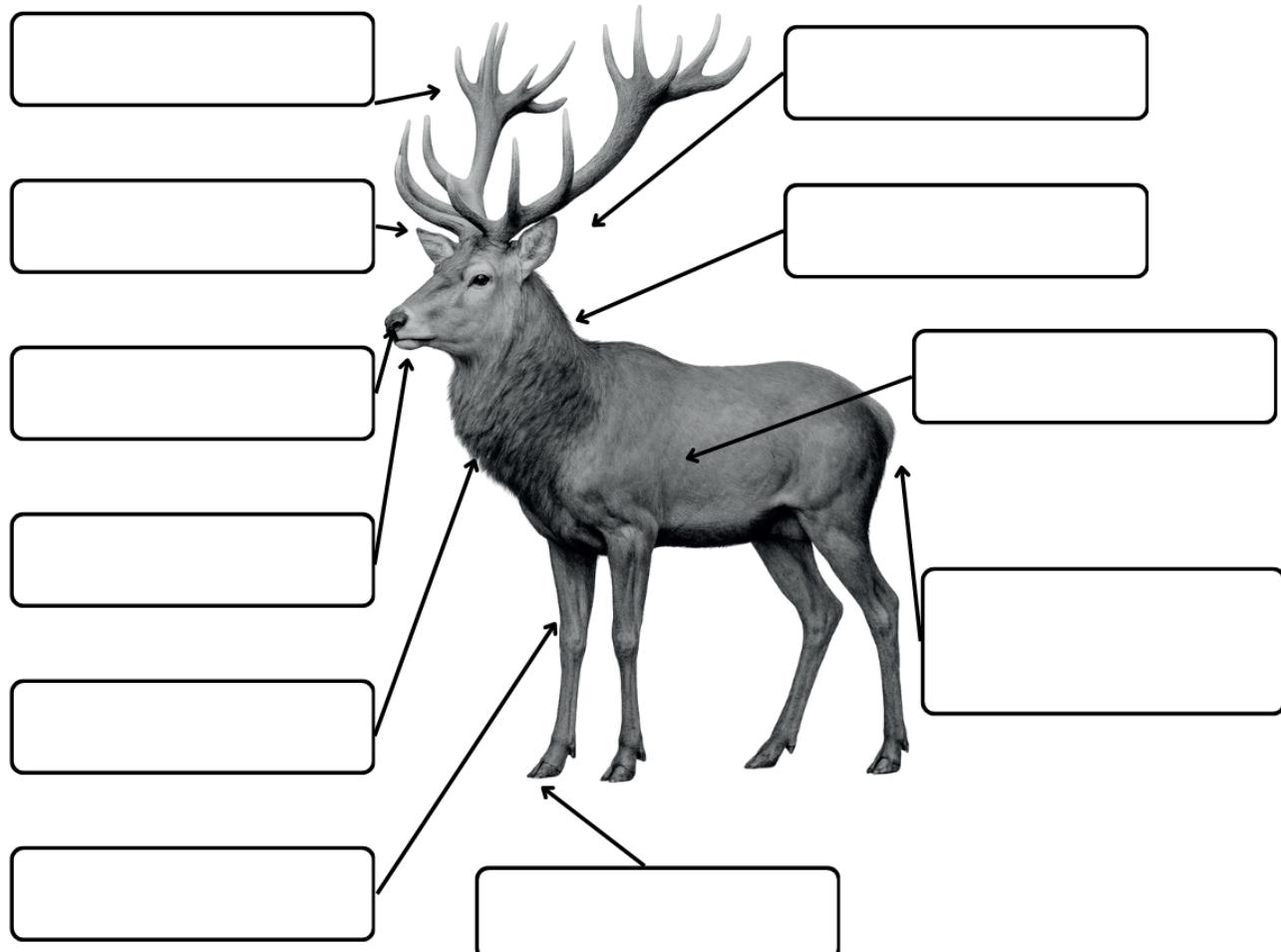
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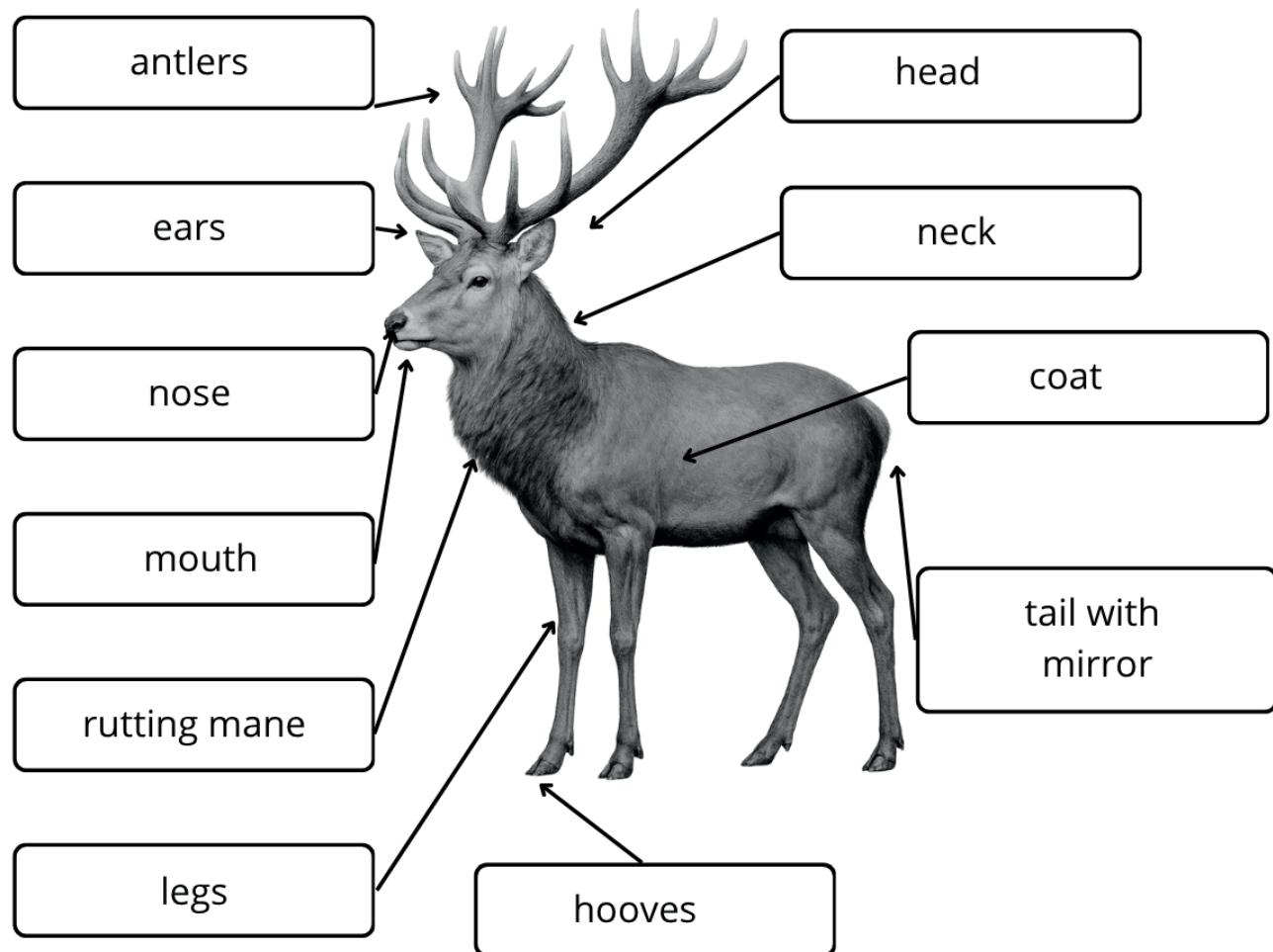
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