

# READING COMPREHENSION

Passages with Text-Based Questions

## Biomes & Habitats



## About this Resource

This full product contains differentiated reading passages about 12 different biomes/habitats. Each passage comes in three different levels. The 36 total passages are perfect for teaching a diverse group of learners in small groups. You can also use any passage for a whole class comprehension lesson.

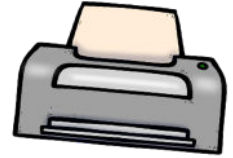
## Reading levels

Each level 1 passage is approximately a high first grade reading level.  
Each level 2 passage is approximately a mid second grade reading level.  
Each level 3 passage is approximately an early third grade reading level.

# Thank you

Thank you for downloading this free sample  
of passages from The Measured Mom!

## A note about printing



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## Questions?

E-mail [hello@themeasuredmom.com](mailto:hello@themeasuredmom.com)

### Reading Comprehension Passages with Text-Based Questions – FAMOUS PEOPLE

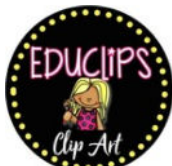
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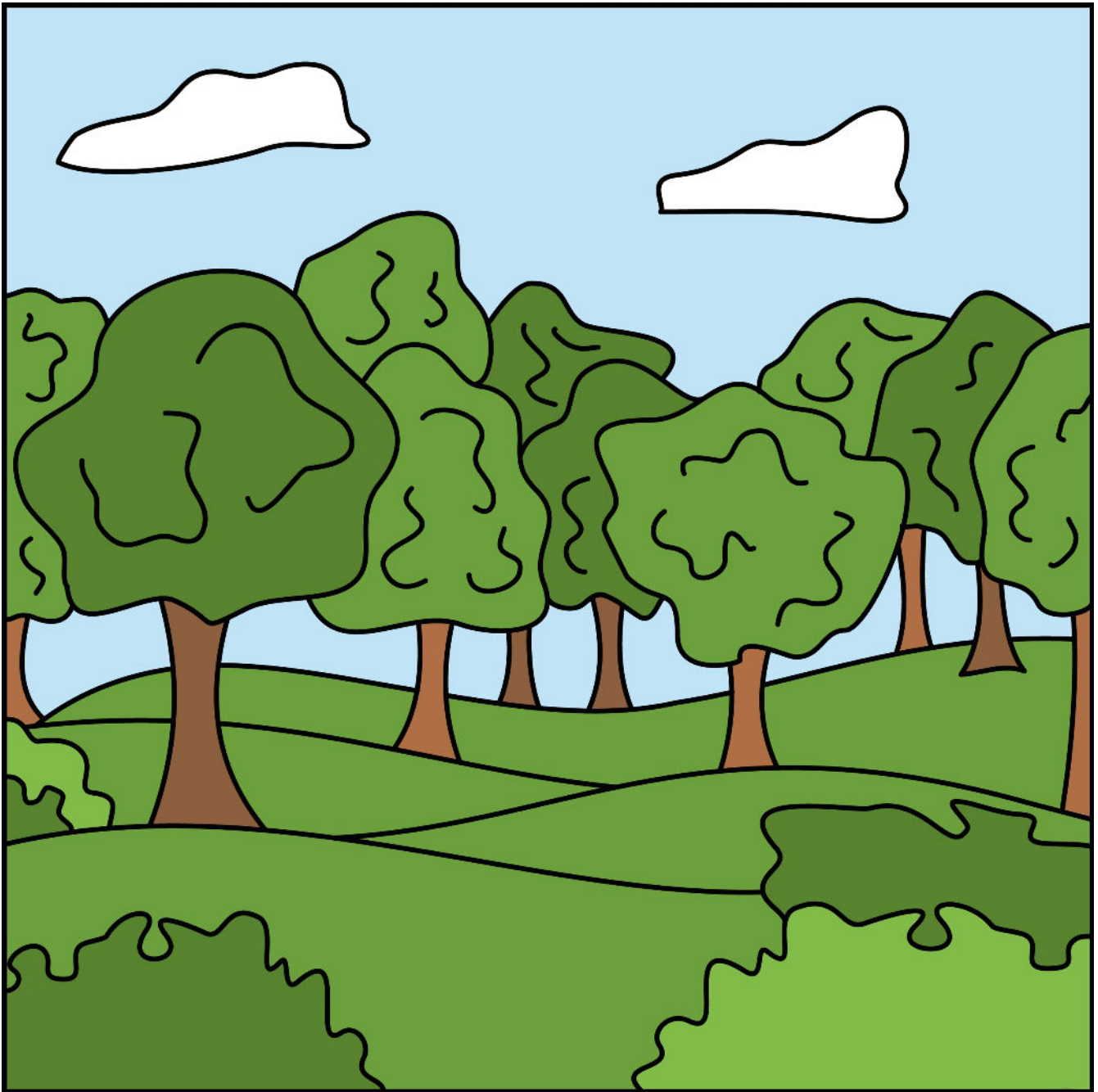
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# Let's Visit the Deciduous Forest



# Let's Visit the Deciduous Forest

## Teacher's Guide - Passage I

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### Sample introduction

Have you ever gone for a walk in the woods? What are things you like to find there? Many people like to visit the woods in the autumn (fall). Can you guess why? It's often because they like to see the beautiful fall colors. There's a special name for a forest with trees whose leaves change color and fall off. It's called a deciduous forest. Today you're going to learn about this biome.

### Vocabulary

- biome
- deciduous
- migrate
- hibernate
- cicada

### Possible teaching points (choose just one or two)

- Understanding new vocabulary using in-text definitions (biome, deciduous, migrate, hibernate)
- Making personal connections (When have you visited a forest? What plants and animals did you see?)
- Using text features (headings, map, captions, bold print words)

### Discussion questions

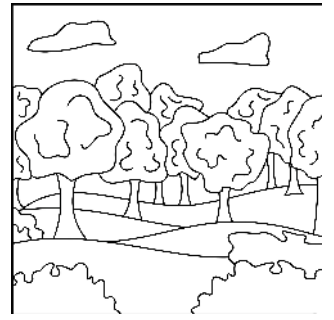
- Where can you find deciduous forests?
- What is a biome?
- Tell about the seasons of a deciduous forest.
- What might you wear if you visited a deciduous forest in the fall?
- Why do deciduous trees lose their leaves in the fall?
- How do animals survive the winter in a deciduous forest?
- What is interesting about the cicada?
- What does the opossum do when it's in danger?

### Reading response (optional)

If desired, print and distribute the response sheet. You might ask students to highlight information in the text as they write their answers.

# Let's Visit the Deciduous Forest

by Anna Geiger — © themeasuredmom.com



Do you like to see trees that change colors with the seasons? Let's visit the deciduous forest!

## Where can you find a deciduous forest?

You can find deciduous forests in many places. Examples include the United States, Canada, Europe, Japan, Russia, and Australia.



This map shows where to find deciduous forests.

The deciduous forest is a kind of biome. A **biome** is a large area of Earth. It has a certain climate and specific types of plants and animals.

## Dress for the weather!

What should you wear? It depends when you go. A deciduous forest has four seasons: a rainy spring, a hot summer, a cool fall, and a cold winter. It's a good idea to bring rain boots. You might find a river or stream.



# Plant life

Did you know that **deciduous** means “fall off”? Many trees in a deciduous forest lose their leaves in the fall. When trees don’t have leaves, they can save energy and water. This helps them live through the winter.

## Surviving the winter

The winter is too cold for many animals in the deciduous forest. Many birds **migrate** during the winter. This means that they move to a different place. Other animals **hibernate** (spend the winter resting). To hibernate, they curl up in a safe place and stay there until winter is over. Bats, hedgehogs, and ground squirrels hibernate.

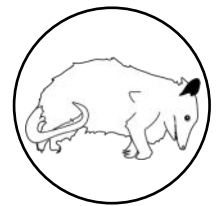
## Animal fun facts

The **cicada** is an insect that lives in the deciduous forest. It lives under the ground for almost 17 years. Then it comes out as an adult.



cicada

When the Virginia opossum is afraid, it lies on its back and is perfectly still. It even starts to smell! It can seem dead for up to four hours.



opossum

The deciduous forest is fun to visit! Are you ready to go?

# The Deciduous Forest

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. Which statement best describes the seasons of a deciduous forest?
  - ☐ It has a rainy spring, a hot summer, a cool fall, and a cold winter.
  - ☐ It feels like summer all year long in the deciduous forest.
  - ☐ It has two seasons: a cold winter and a warm summer
2. Why do many forest animals migrate for the winter?
  - ☐ There aren't enough trees for them to hide in.
  - ☐ The winter is too cold for them.
  - ☐ They want to hibernate somewhere else.
3. True or false? Trees in a deciduous forest lose their leaves so they can survive the winter.
  - ☐ True
  - ☐ False
4. True or false? The cicada is a type of small mammal.
  - ☐ True
  - ☐ False
5. What does an opossum do when it's afraid? Draw a picture.



# Let's Visit the Deciduous Forest

## Teacher's Guide - Passage 2

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### Passage introduction

Have you ever gone for a walk in the woods? What are things you like to find there? Many people like to visit the woods in autumn (fall). Can you guess why? It's because they like to see the beautiful fall colors. There's a special name for a forest with trees whose leaves change color and fall off. It's called a deciduous forest. Today you're going to learn about this biome.

### Vocabulary

- biome
- deciduous
- migrate
- hibernate
- cicada

### Possible teaching points (choose just one or two)

- Understanding new vocabulary using in-text definitions (biome, deciduous, migrate, hibernate)
- Making personal connections (When have you visited a forest? What plants and animals did you see?)
- Using text features (headings, map, captions, chart, bold print words)
- Reporting important concepts in an organized way

### Discussion questions

- Where can you find deciduous forests?
- What is a biome?
- Tell about the seasons of a deciduous forest.
- What might you wear if you visited a deciduous forest in the fall? In the summer?
- What helps protect trees from the winter cold?
- How is the top layer of the deciduous forest different from the bottom layer?
- What are three ways that animals survive the winter in a deciduous forest?
- What is interesting about the cicada?
- What does the opossum do when it feels threatened?

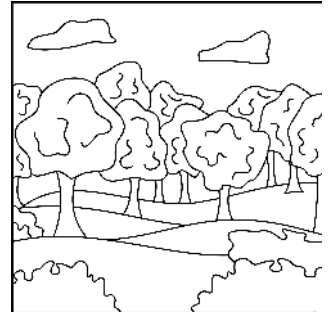
### Reading response (optional)

If desired, print and distribute the response sheet. You might ask students to highlight information in the text as they write their answers.



# Let's Visit the Deciduous Forest

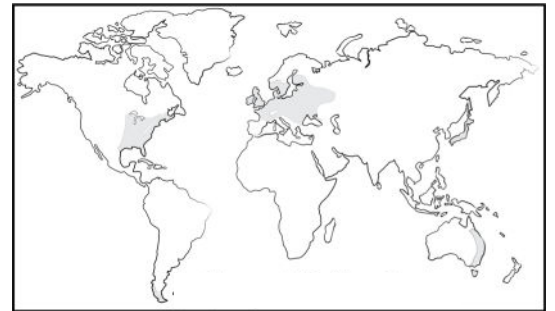
by Anna Geiger — © themeasuredmom.com



Would you like to spend some time in a beautiful woodland where trees change color with the seasons? Let's visit the deciduous forest!

## Where can you find a deciduous forest?

You can find deciduous forests all over the world. Examples include the United States, Canada, Europe, Japan, Russia, and Australia. The deciduous forest is a kind of biome. A **biome** is a large area of Earth with a certain climate and specific types of plants and animals.



This map shows where to find deciduous forests all over the world.

## Dress for the weather!

What should you wear on your visit? It depends when you go. A deciduous forest has four seasons: a rainy spring, a hot summer, a cool autumn, and a cold winter. If it's not too cold, bring along your rain boots. You might discover a river, stream, creek, or spring.

## Plant life



Losing their leaves helps deciduous trees save water and energy.



Thick bark protects trees from cold weather.

Did you know that **deciduous** means "fall off"? That's because many trees in a deciduous forest lose their leaves in the fall. Not having leaves helps trees save energy and water so they can survive the winter. Thick bark also protects trees from the cold.

A deciduous forest has five layers. Look at the chart to learn more about them.

## The Layers of a Deciduous Forest



tall trees

saplings and other short trees

shrubs and bushes

flowers and berries

moss, ferns, mushrooms, and fallen leaves

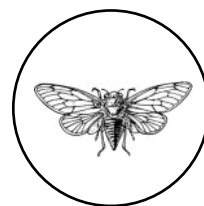
## Surviving the winter

If you visit in the winter, you won't see many animals because of the cold. Many birds **migrate**, or move to a different place, during the winter. Other animals **hibernate**, or enter a sleeplike state. To hibernate, they curl up in a safe place and stay there until winter is over. Bats, hedgehogs, and ground squirrels are examples of animals that hibernate.

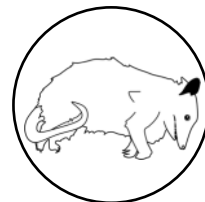
Some forest animals find other ways to survive the winter. Squirrels and chipmunks store large supplies of food to eat during the cold winter months.

## Animal fun facts

Have you heard of the **cicada**? It's an insect that lives underground for almost 17 years. At the end of those 17 years, it comes out and becomes a winged adult. Listen for the cicada's buzzing sound. You can't miss it!



Cicadas spend 17 years underground before becoming adults.



This opossum isn't really dead!

The Virginia **opossum** is another interesting animal. When they're threatened, opossums lie on their backs and are perfectly still. They even start to smell! Opossums can appear dead for up to four hours.

The deciduous forest is an amazing place! Are you packed yet? Let's go!

# The Deciduous Forest

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. What is a deciduous forest?

- A forest with mostly evergreen trees
- A hot, humid forest where it rains a lot
- A forest where many trees lose their leaves in the fall

2. Why do many trees in a deciduous forest have thick bark?

- Thick bark keeps beavers from biting the tree.
- Thick bark protects trees from the cold.
- Thick bark makes trees more beautiful.



3. What does it mean to hibernate?

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4. What is unusual about the cicada?

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5. What happens when opossums feel threatened?

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# The Deciduous Forest

## Teacher's Guide - Passage 3

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### Passage introduction

Have you ever gone for a walk in the woods? What are things you like to find there? Many people like to visit the woods in autumn (fall). Can you guess why? It's often because they like to see the beautiful fall colors. There's a special name for a forest with trees whose leaves change color and fall off. It's called a deciduous forest. Today you're going to learn about this biome.

### Vocabulary

- biome
- deciduous
- conserve
- migrate
- hibernate
- cicada
- marsupial

### Possible teaching points (choose just one or two)

- Understanding new vocabulary using in-text definitions (biome, deciduous, migrate, hibernate, marsupial)
- Making personal connections (When have you visited a forest? What plants and animals did you see?)
- Using text features (headings, map, captions, chart, bold print words)
- Reporting important concepts in an organized way

### Discussion questions

- Where can you find deciduous forests?
- What is a biome?
- What makes a deciduous forest different from other types of forests?
- What might you wear if you visited a deciduous forest in the fall? In the summer?
- What helps protect trees from the winter cold?
- How is the top layer of the deciduous forest different from the bottom layer?
- What are three ways that animals survive the winter in a deciduous forest?
- What is interesting about the cicada?
- What does the opossum do when it feels threatened?

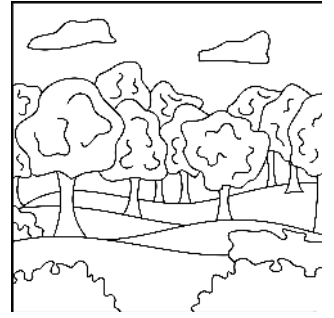
### Reading response (optional)

If desired, print and distribute the response sheet. You might ask students to highlight information in the text as they write their answers.

Please use this teacher's guide as a tool to get you started and not as a script.  
Use only what makes sense for your learners, and supplement as needed.

# Let's Visit the Deciduous Forest

by Anna Geiger – ©themeasuredmom.com



Would you like to spend some time in a beautiful woodland where trees change color with the seasons? Let's visit the deciduous forest!

## Where can you find a deciduous forest?

Deciduous forests are located in many places throughout the world. Examples include the United States, Canada, Europe, Japan, Russia, and Australia. The deciduous forest is a kind of biome. A **biome** is a large area of Earth with a certain climate and specific types of plants and animals. The map shows even more places to find this biome.



This map shows the location of deciduous forests all over the world.

## Dress for the weather!

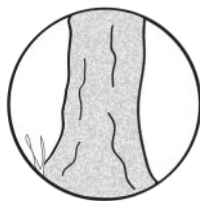
What should you wear on your visit to the deciduous forest? It depends when you go. A deciduous forest has four seasons: a rainy spring, a hot summer, a cool autumn, and a cold (and sometimes snowy) winter. The average temperature is 50°F (10°C), but it changes depending on the season. If it's not too cold, bring along your rain boots. You might discover a river, stream, creek, or spring.

## Plant life

Did you know that **deciduous** means "fall off"? That's because many trees in a deciduous forest lose their leaves in the fall. Not having leaves helps trees **conserve** (save) energy and water so they can survive the winter. Thick bark also protects trees from the cold.



Losing their leaves helps deciduous trees conserve water and energy.



Thick bark protects trees from cold temperatures.

When you visit, look for the five layers of the deciduous forest. You can learn about them by studying the chart on the next page.

Remember to look *down* at the fifth layer. You can discover moss, ferns, and mushrooms on the forest floor. You might even hear a crunching sound as you trudge through fallen leaves.

## The Layers of a Deciduous Forest



tall trees

saplings and other short trees

shrubs and bushes

flowers and berries

moss, ferns, mushrooms, and fallen leaves

## Surviving the winter

A deciduous forest is full of animals! But you won't see many in the winter because of the cold. Many birds **migrate**, or move to a different place, during the winter. Other animals **hibernate**, or enter an inactive, sleeplike state. To hibernate, they curl up in a safe place and stay there until winter is over. They barely breathe and have a much lower body temperature than normal. Bats, hedgehogs, and ground squirrels are examples of animals that hibernate.

Some forest animals do not hibernate or migrate. Instead, they find other ways to survive the winter. For example, squirrels and chipmunks store large supplies of food to eat during the cold winter months.

## Animal fun facts

One of the most fascinating animals of the deciduous forest is the **cicada**. It's an insect that lives underground for almost 17 years. At the end of those 17 years, it emerges and becomes a winged adult. Listen for the cicadas' shrill buzzing sound. You can't miss it!



Cicadas spend 17 years underground before becoming adults.

Another unique animal is the Virginia opossum. The opossum is a **marsupial** (a mammal known for carrying its babies in a pouch). When they're threatened, opossums go into a state of shock. They lie on their backs and close their eyes or stare straight ahead. They start to drool. They even produce a smell of decay! Opossums can appear dead for up to four hours.



This opossum isn't really dead!

The deciduous forest is an amazing place! Are you packed yet? Let's go!



# The Deciduous Forest

Name\_\_\_\_\_

1. Why do trees in a deciduous forest lose their leaves in the fall?
  - It helps them save energy and water so they can survive the winter.
  - Leaves fall because they get old and dry up.
2. How do squirrels and chipmunks survive the cold winter?
  - They migrate to a warmer place.
  - They hibernate all winter long.
  - They store food to eat during the winter.



3. Describe the layers of a deciduous forest.

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4. Describe what happens when animals hibernate.

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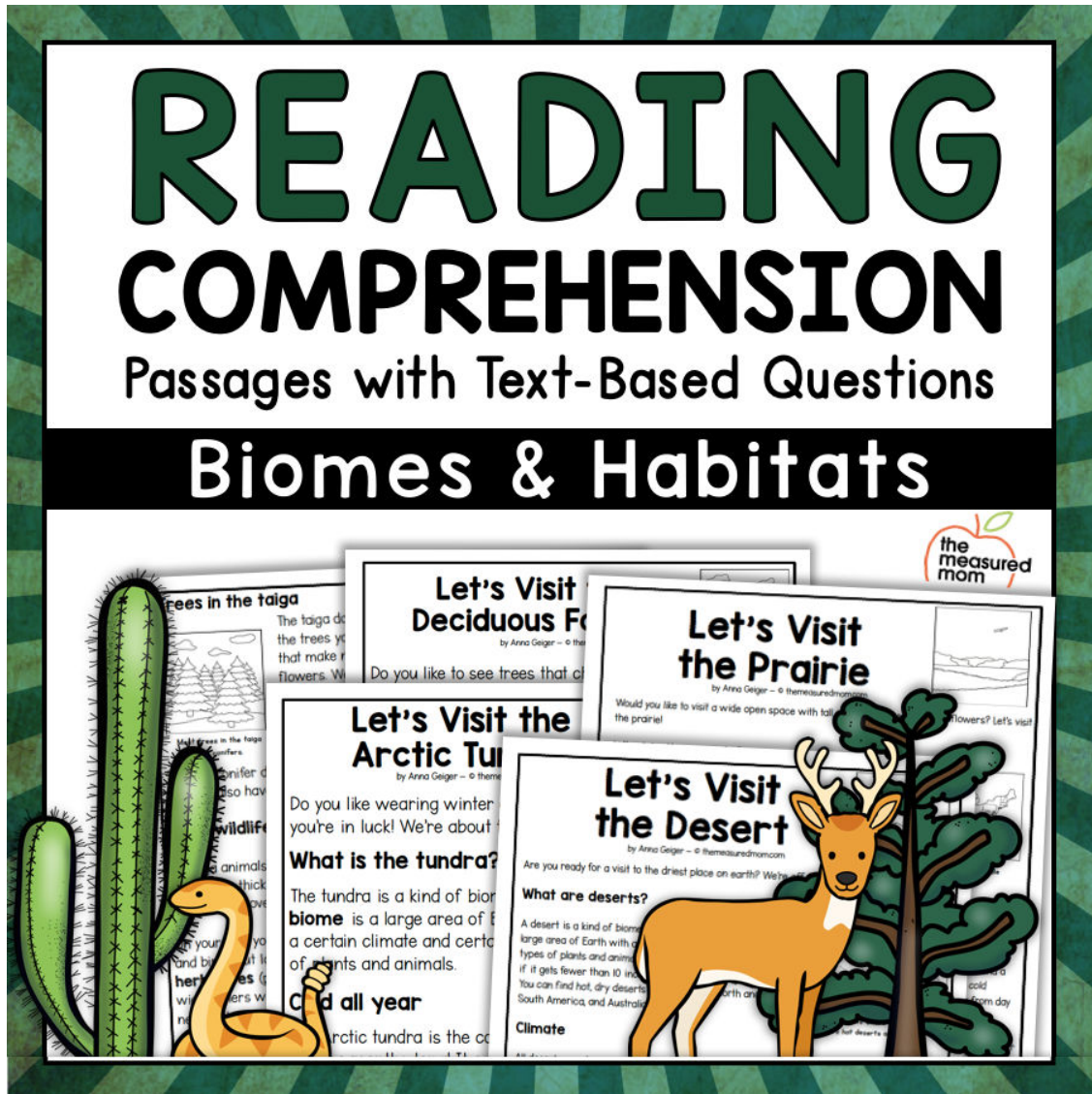
5. Explain what happens when an opossum feels threatened.

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