

Spring Tales

Newsletter



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Duck Dogs



Dogs have played important roles over the years when it comes to helping hunters all over the world. Duck hunters in particular have used all sorts of breeds of dogs to help retrieve downed birds, the Labrador being the most popular.



Labrador Retrievers



Hunters have been using hunting dogs throughout history, and for waterfowl, the Labrador is the most popular. Not only do they make great pets for home, but they help out greatly when it comes to finding and retrieving birds for hunters. Most Labradors come in Chocolate, Yellow or Black colors. Retrieving for a Labrador comes natural and they absolutely love it, from tennis balls and sticks to birds. Labradors are perfectly adapted for duck hunting. They love water, have two fur coats to help them stay warm and waterproof, webbed toes that act like flippers to help with swimming, an otter-like tail and are full of energy, which helps when you are trying to chase down a duck!

Otter-like Tail



Webbed Toes



LABRADOR QUIZ

(How much do you know about Labradors? Test your knowledge below!)

1) Where do Labradors come from?

- A) Labrador B) Hawaii
- C) Newfoundland D) Scientific Lab

2) The Labrador is the most popular breed in America.

- A) True B) False

3) Which color do Labradors not come in?

- A) Yellow B) Black
- C) Chocolate D) Tan

4) Labradors were first used for fishing, not hunting.

- A) True B) False

5) Labradors make great watch dogs.

- A) True B) False



St. John's Water Dog using it's paw to try and lure fish close enough to catch

Answers:

- 1) C. Labradors originated in Newfoundland, Canada. They were originally called Saint John's Water Dogs.
- 2) A. The Labrador has been the most popular breed in America for 26 years in a row!
- 3) D. The official colors Labradors are Black, Yellow and Chocolate, although there is a variation of Labradors that have a silver coat, but are not officially recognized.
- 4) A. Labradors were first used by fishermen to help retrieve fish or bring in fishing lines or nets.
- 5) B. Labradors usually do not make very good watch dogs. They are way too friendly.

Wetland Species

ALL of these animals below call wetlands home across the United States. Can you spot and circle 3 animals that do **NOT** belong in a California Wetland?

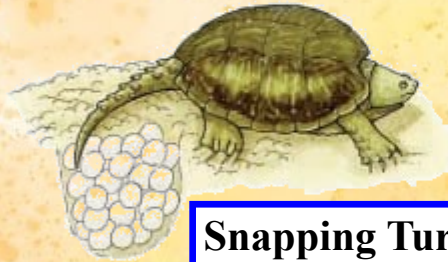


Osprey



Great Blue Heron

Moose



Snapping Turtle



Mallard Duck



Muskrat

Alligator



Moose — Snapping Turtle — Alligator

ANSWERS

For more information on our education programs or to get involved, contact Molly Maupin, Education Coordinator at (916) 648-1406 Ext. 102 or mmaupin@calwaterfowl.org

For more information and our calendar of events go to www.calwaterfowl.org