NIGHT SENSE

WHOOOOO is up when the sun goes down? It isn't just owls and fireflies that prefer the night watch. Many animals prefer the cover of darkness for protection. They may have large eyes and ears and sensitive noses or whiskers to help them explore their dark world. Our wet and slimy animal friends, like slugs and salamanders, are more active at night because they could dry out in the hot sun. All of this activity brings out the predators who are able to hunt under cover of darkness.

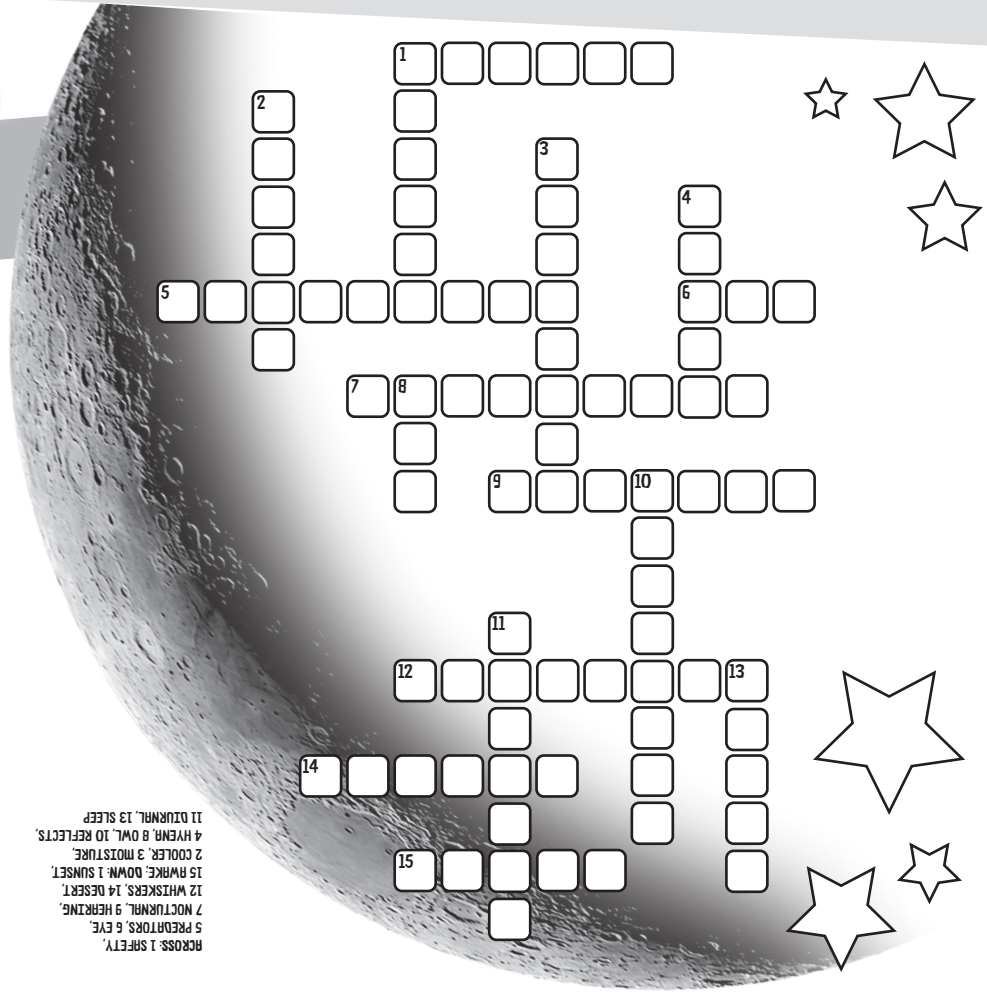
Test your night sense using our crossword puzzle. If you really like a challenge, see if you can survive a night at the Zoo at one of our overnight programs for families, scouts and school groups. Visit stlzoo.org/education for more information!

ACROSS

1 Why mice are active after dark
5 These animals use the cover of darkness to hunt
6 The tapetum is located in an animal's ____
7 ____ animals are awake at night
9 Nocturnal animals may have large ears for ____ at night, when they can't see well
12 Nocturnal mammals may have these special hairs for feeling around in the dark
14 Most animals that live in this hot, dry place prefer the cooler temperatures at night
15 Diurnal animals are ____ during the day

DOWN

1 Crepuscular animals are awake at sunrise and ____
2 Pit viper snakes find warm-blooded prey better at night because it is ____ outside
3 Why salamanders are active after dark
4 Nocturnal African scavenger
8 A nocturnal bird of prey
10 The tapetum ____ light
11 Humans are ____ ; we're naturally awake during the day
13 Lions ____ for 20 hours a day



ACROSS: 1 SAFETY, 5 PREDATORS, 6 EYE, 7 NOCTURNAL, 9 HEARING, 12 WHISKERS, 14 DESERT, 15 AWAKE; DOWN: 1 SUNSET, 2 COOLER, 3 MOISTURE, 4 HYENA, 8 OWL, 10 REFLECTS, 11 DIURNAL, 13 SLEEP

Saint Louis Zoo
Animals Always®