

# APPRENTICE RESEARCHERS

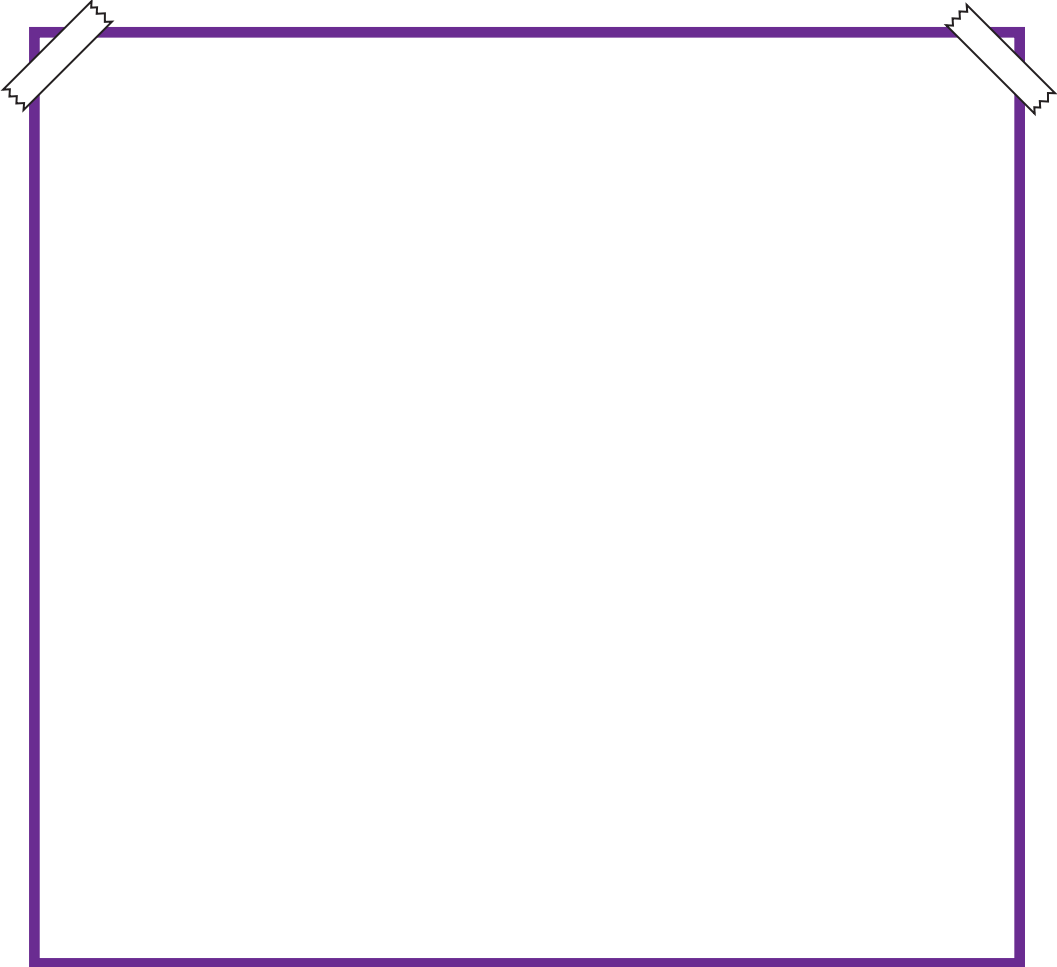
## THE LYNX AND ITS ADAPTATIONS

Animals and plants have developed all kinds of adaptations allowing them to survive in their environment. You can learn a lot about animals simply by looking at their bodies. For instance, even though dinosaurs disappeared millions of years ago, we know from examining their skeletons how they ate, defended themselves and moved around. To prepare for the following activities, read this text on how lynx are adapted to their surroundings.

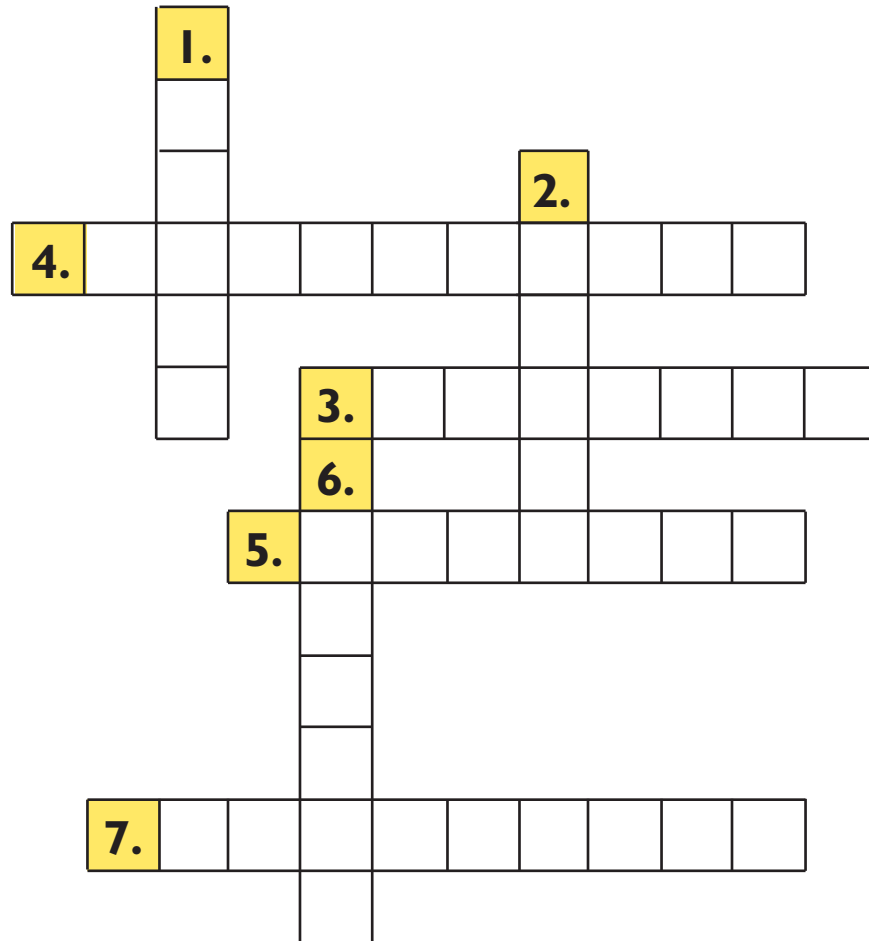
Lynx are mammals that live in the coniferous forests of North America. You can recognize them from the tufts of fur on their ears and their short, black-tipped tails. They are fearsome predators, feeding mainly on snowshoe hares. They have strong hind legs that allow them to pounce on their prey, which they seize with their pointed teeth. In winter, their thick

fur protects them from the cold. Lynx use their sensitive whiskers to “see” in the dark. Their sense of hearing is also very sharp. They can walk across the snow without sinking, thanks to their large paws. At the Biodôme, the lynx lives in the Laurentian Forest ecosystem where it often lies at the top of a cliff.

**Draw a lynx, showing its main features. You can use this photograph and the description of its adaptations to help you.**



Read the description of the lynx' adaptations and fill out this crossword puzzle.



## DOWN

1. I have very ... hearing.
2. I have very ... fur.
6. I can pounce on my prey thanks to my ... hind legs.

## ACROSS

3. I am a carnivore, with ... teeth.
4. I live in the ... Forest.
5. My large paws keep me from ... into the snow.
7. At night, I "see" my surroundings thanks to my ... whiskers.

