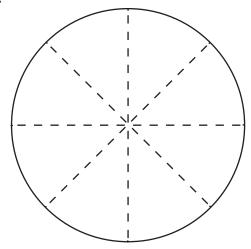
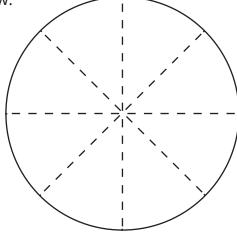
Drought! Now What?

On a normal year, Rancher Bill can grow a whole circle of hay. He needs 7/8 of his field to feed his cattle through the winter. Color how much hay Bill needs to grow to feed his cattle.



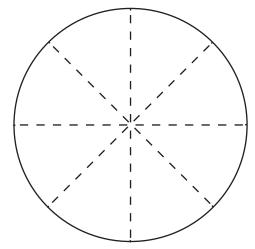
What fraction of the field of hay would he have left on a normal year?

Rancher Bill has been watching the weather reports and conditions. Based on the predicted precipitation for this year, Bill is facing a drought. He will have enough irrigation water to grow hay on 5/8 of his field. Color in how much hay Bill will be able to grow.



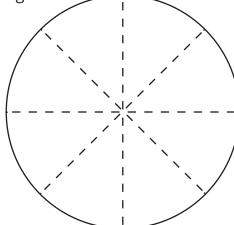
How many sections of hay will Bill need to replace to feed his cattle?

Rancher Ruth can also grow a whole circle of hay on a normal year. She feeds 10 cows with each section of her hay crop. Ruth currently has 60 cows. Color in the amount of hay Ruth uses.



What fraction of the field of hay would she have left on a normal year?

Ruth is also facing a drought. She will only have enough irrigation water to grow hay on 4/8 of her field. Color in the amount of hay she can grow.



If each section feeds 10 cows, how many cows can Ruth feed?

How many cows will she need to sell because she won't have enough hay for them? _____

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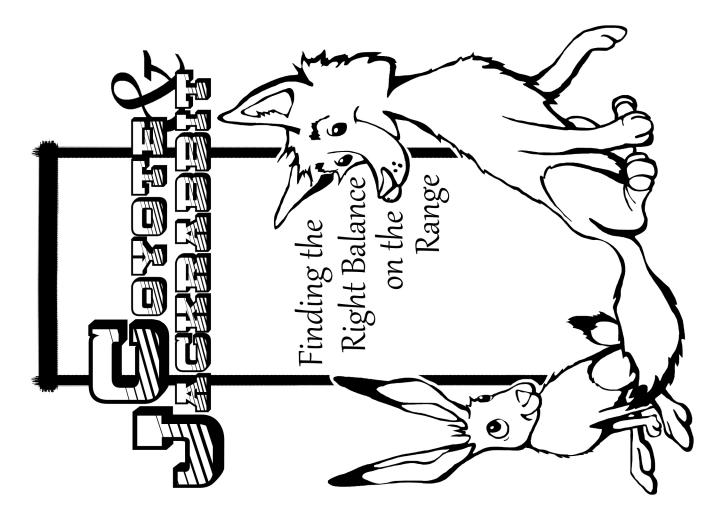


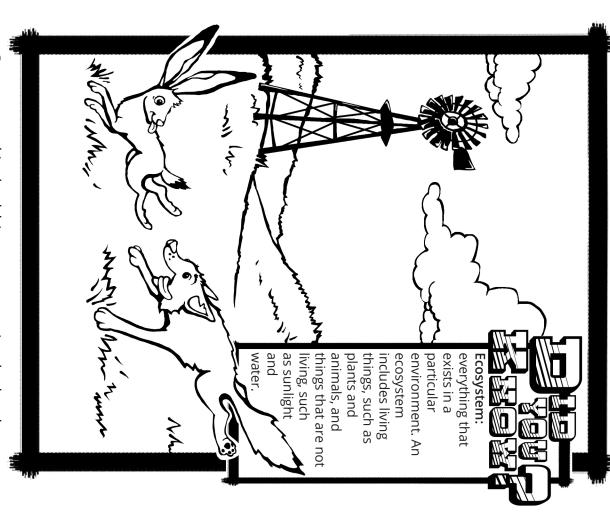


Illustrations by Marie Burghard

"Did You Know" Sources:

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Coyotes and jackrabbits are two animals that have lived in Wyoming a long time. Coyotes are predators. That means they prey on other animals for food. The jackrabbits are prey. That means they are hunted by predators. They keep each other's population numbers in balance. This creates a healthy **ecosystem**.

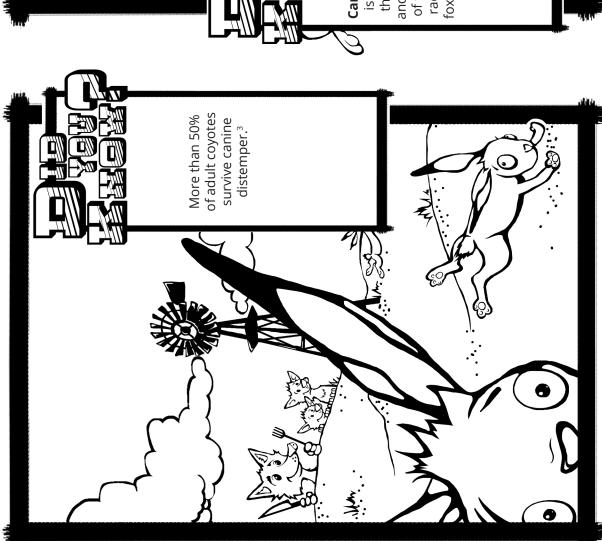
Most of Wyoming's rangeland is classified as either shortgrass prairie occurs mainly in the southeast corner of the state and extends south into Colorado.4

With the jackrabbit population in check, the rangeland thrived. Jackrabbits had enough to eat, and so did the coyotes, wildlife, and livestock. The ecosystem was in balance once again!

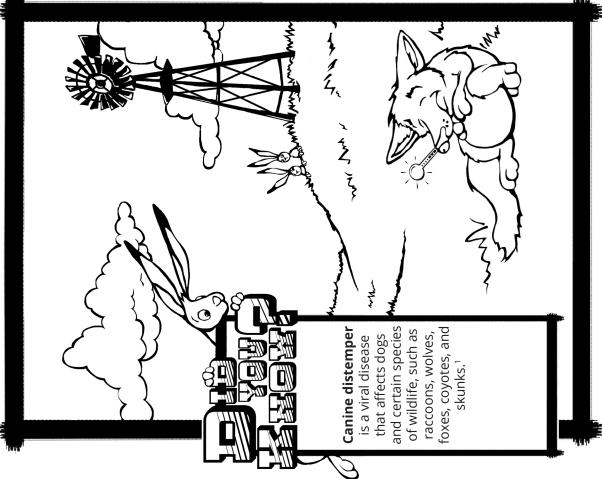
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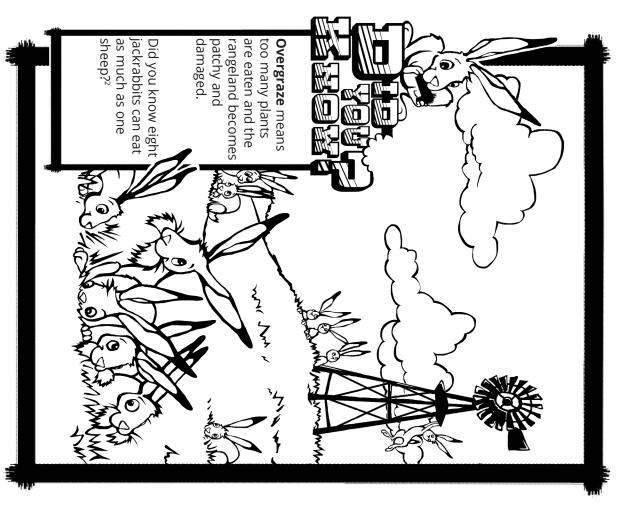
www.wyaitc.org



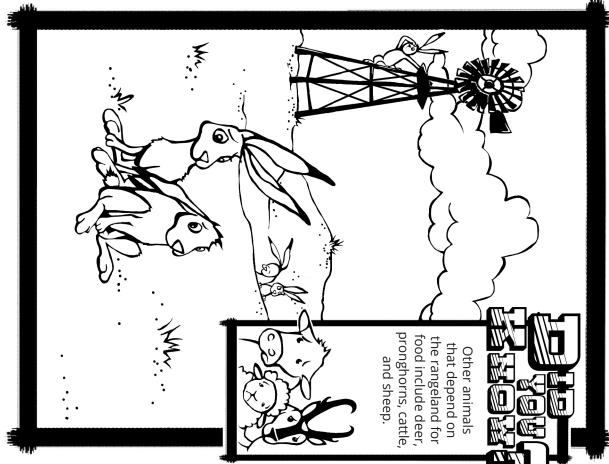
Eventually, most of the coyotes recovered from canine distemper. The surviving coyotes had a lot of jackrabbits to eat, so their population quickly grew.



One year, the coyote population decreased because of an illness called **canine distemper**. Without predators, the jackrabbit population grew larger than ever before!



All those jackrabbits were hungry, so they ate and ate and ate! In fact, they ate so much they **overgrazed** the rangeland.



Because the jackrabbits overgrazed, other animals weren't able to eat the grass they needed to survive. It was getting harder and harder for the jackrabbits, wildlife, and livestock to find food.

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Cause and Effect Assessment Pages

Cause:

A rancher is facing a drought year.

Effects:

1	 	 	
2.			
3		 	

Cause:

A rancher has noticed an increased number of predators on his ranch.

Effects:

1		 	
2			
3			



Cause and Effect Assessment Pages

Cause:

A rancher creates a plan for livestock grazing.

Effects:

1.		
2.		
3.		

