

# **The Reindeer Support Scheme**

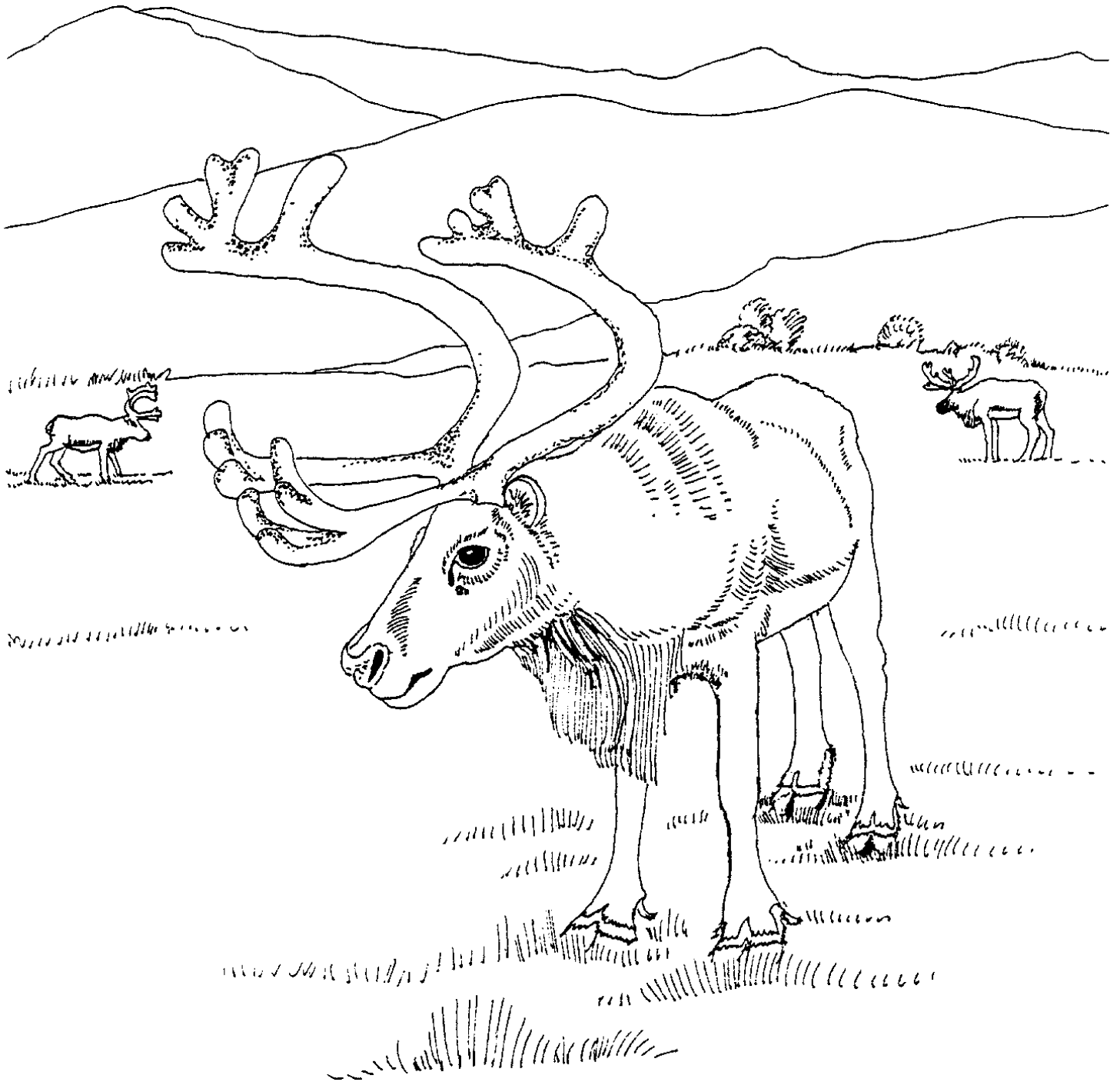
## ***Student Information Pack***

### **Section 1**

# INTRODUCTION

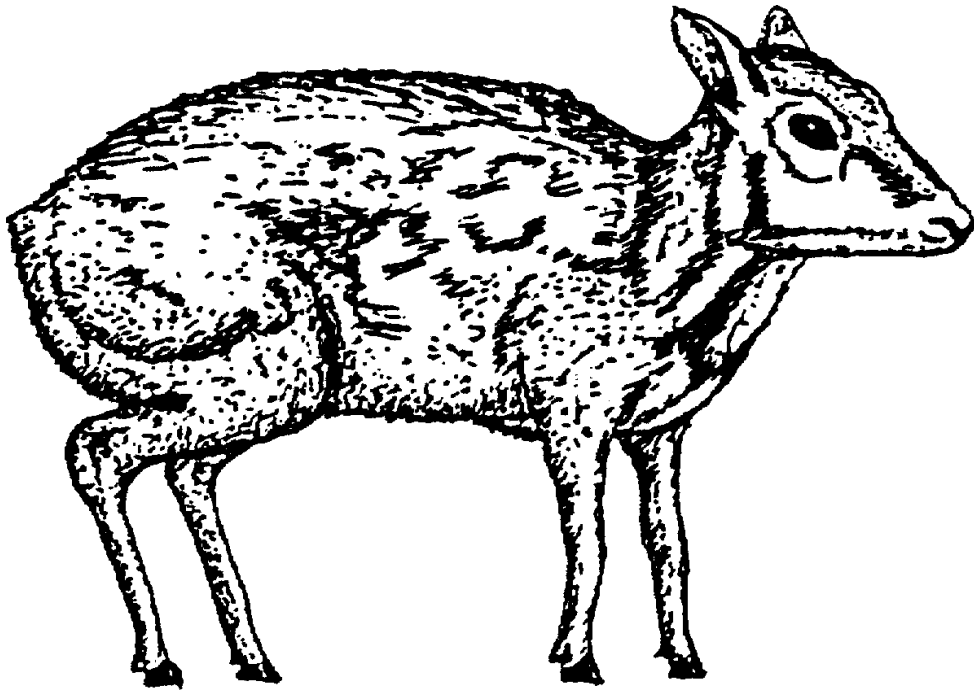
# REINDEER

In the past, man depended on reindeer in order to survive in arctic regions. Now, in the face of radiation, oil exploration, and even climate warming, the reindeer increasingly depend on man.



# THE DEER FAMILY (CERVIDAE)

Reindeer are one of approximately 40 species of deer which are alive today. The deer family are thought to have evolved from an animal similar to the Chevrotain of today.



## LESSER MALAYAN CHEVROTAIN

Since that early ancestor, deer have evolved in divergent ecological niches, ranging from Tropical rain forests to Arctic Tundra. Some species are thriving, while others are under threat.

Reindeer, or to give them their scientific name "*Rangifer tarandus*", are distributed naturally in the Northern Hemisphere, particularly within Arctic Regions.

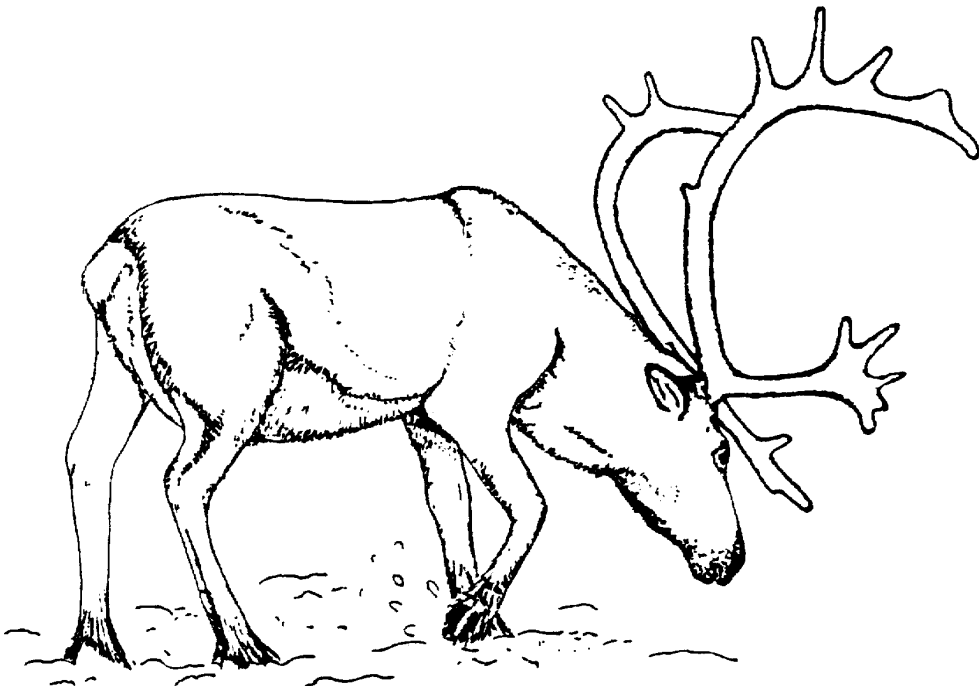
# REINDEER OR CARIBOU

In Scandinavia and Russia the term 'Reindeer' is used. This comes from the Lappish word '*REINO*', which means a reindeer calf.



Laplander with a reindeer calf

The term 'Caribou' is used in North America. It is derived from the Micmac Indians and implies the animal's habit of digging and scraping through the snow for food.



A Reindeer searching for food