

“ WHICH RARE WILD ANIMAL HAS ALREADY BEEN SEEN A FEW TIMES IN THE HOLLABRUNN FOREST? ”

- A: Lynx
- B: Wildcat
- C: Wolf
- D: Brown bear



Please use the grey stamp!



“ To find food, the **WILD BOAR** uses its very pronounced sense of smell. ”

Please use the white stamp!





The correct  
answer is the  
**WILDCAT!**



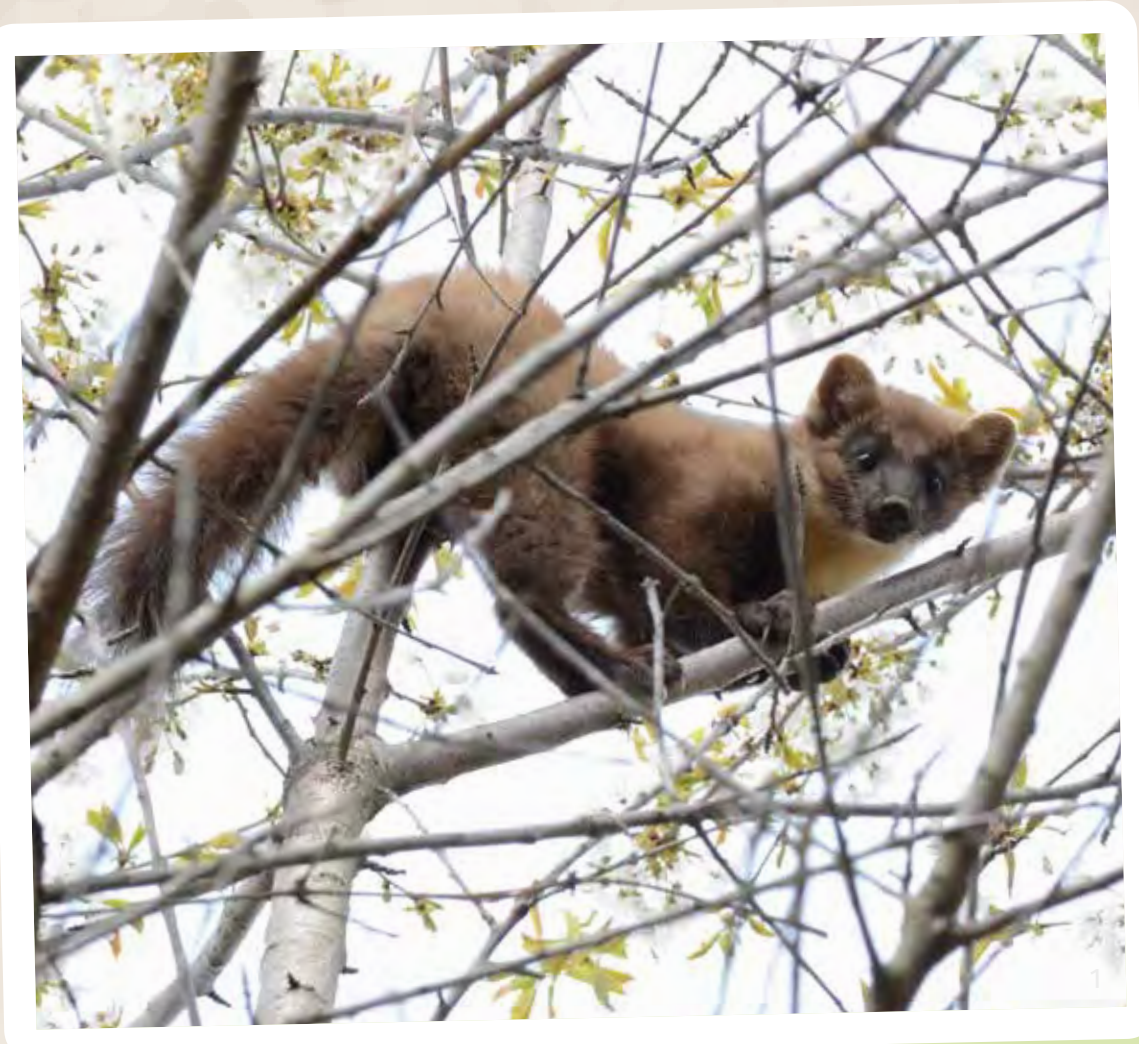
“ The wildcat is back in Austria after more than 50 years. It has been confirmed that there have been sightings of this extremely shy animal in several federal states. Lower Austria, too, is once again harbouring wildcats. Both the Thayatal Valley National Park and the Hollabrunn Forest are making an important contribution to the further proliferation of these animals, because it offers them the structures that they require as a habitat. ”



# SEARCHING FOR TRACES

## LASTING IMPRESSIONS

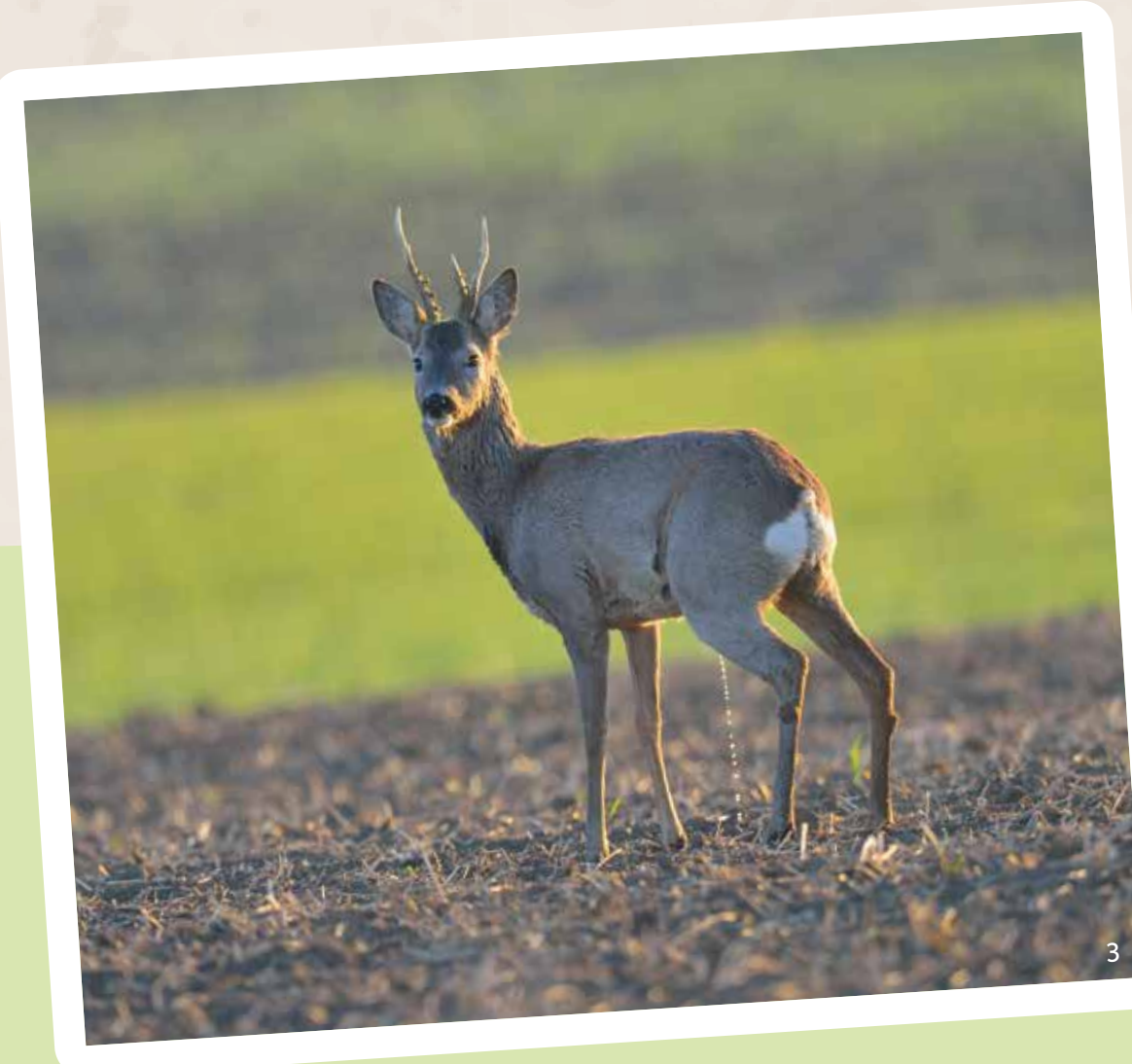
The Hollabrunn Forest houses a wide variety of animal species. From the smallest insects to the most diverse of birds through to large mammals, life in this unique forest positively bustles. What all these animals have in common is that they conceal themselves well. Despite their body size, wild boar, deer, and also badgers and foxes manage to be almost invisible to the human eye. You get the feeling that these wonderful creatures only show themselves when there is no longer anyone around to take a look. They do not remain completely undetected, however. They leave behind paw and hoofprints in the damp forest soil while out on their forays. With a bit of luck and good eyesight, the "lasting impressions" in the earth can be discovered.



**PINE MARTENS** are outstanding climbers. They can move around in the branches of trees like lightning. During the day they sleep in their hideouts and only come out at dusk to search for food.



The **BADGER** is a predator from the marten family. On its forays through the forest, it eats almost everything it encounters – plants as well as small mammals. If it feels threatened, you have to watch out!



In Europe **DEER** are the most common and the smallest type of stag. They are built for life in the dense vegetation of the forest. If there is danger around, they jump quickly, seeking cover in the underwood.



**SQUIRRELS** spend the majority of their lives in airy heights far above in the treetops. This is where their dreys hang and where they find protection from predators. They only come down to the ground to search for food.



We animals like peace and quiet and do not like to be disturbed. That is why we withdraw to the most remote corners of the forest. But particularly at dawn and during the night, we venture out of the thicket. The next day our animal tracks in the damp earth of the forest remain silent proof that we were here. Animal tracks are the imprint of a hoof or a paw in the ground. How we position our legs when walking or running can be discerned from the track that has been left behind.

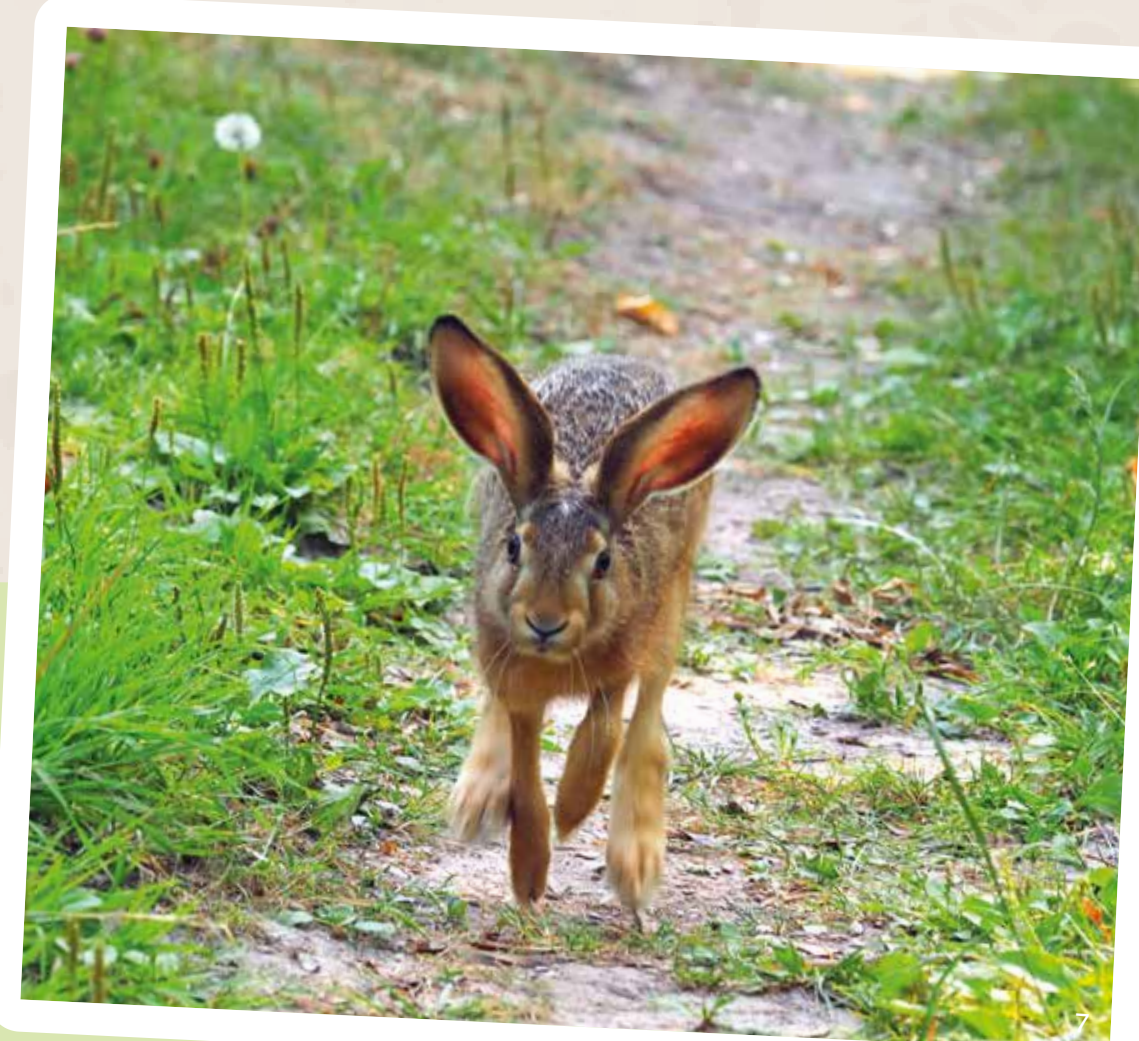
Have a go and make a few tracks in the sand yourself using the available stamps!



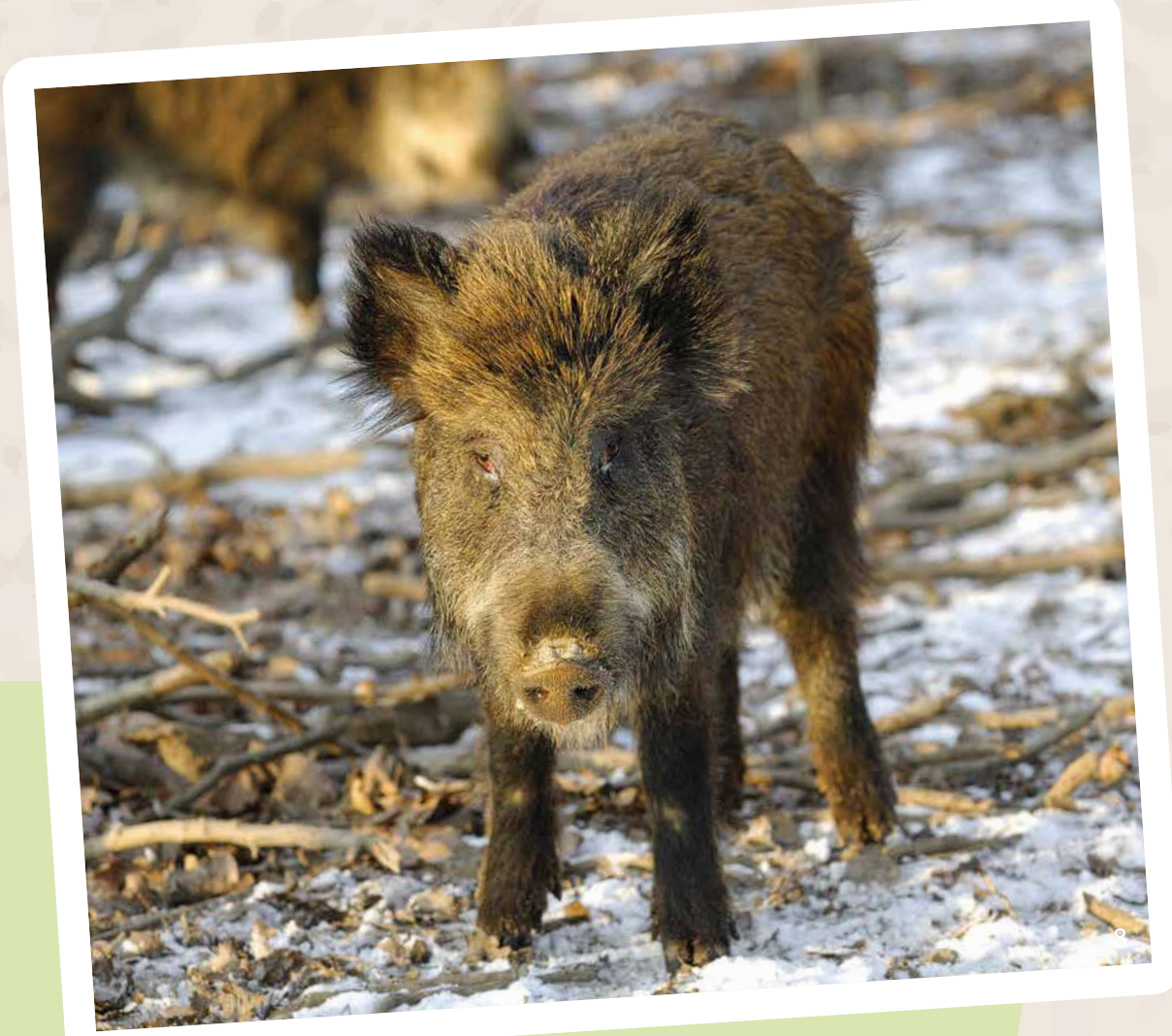
The **WILDCAT** lives up to its name. Real wildcats cannot be tamed into pets. They avoid being near people. They don't like to be touched, and if they are, will show their sharp claws and pointed teeth.



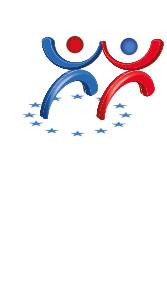
**FOXES** are incredibly adaptable when it comes to responding to changes in their habitat. This fact and the reality that in Europe they have hardly any natural enemies mean that foxes are prevalent on this continent.



**HARES** find many advantages in the forest. Here they have a habitat offering them protection from predators. A rich food supply of shoots, buds and leaves is also available to them here.



**WILD BOAR** roam through the woods in groups and dig up the forest floor looking for things to eat. They let themselves be guided entirely by their excellent noses. The keen sense of smell pigs have is used to search for truffles.



The adventure trail is a pilot investment of the VISIO project. It is realised within the framework of the INTER-REG V-A, SK-AT programme and co-financed by ERDF.

