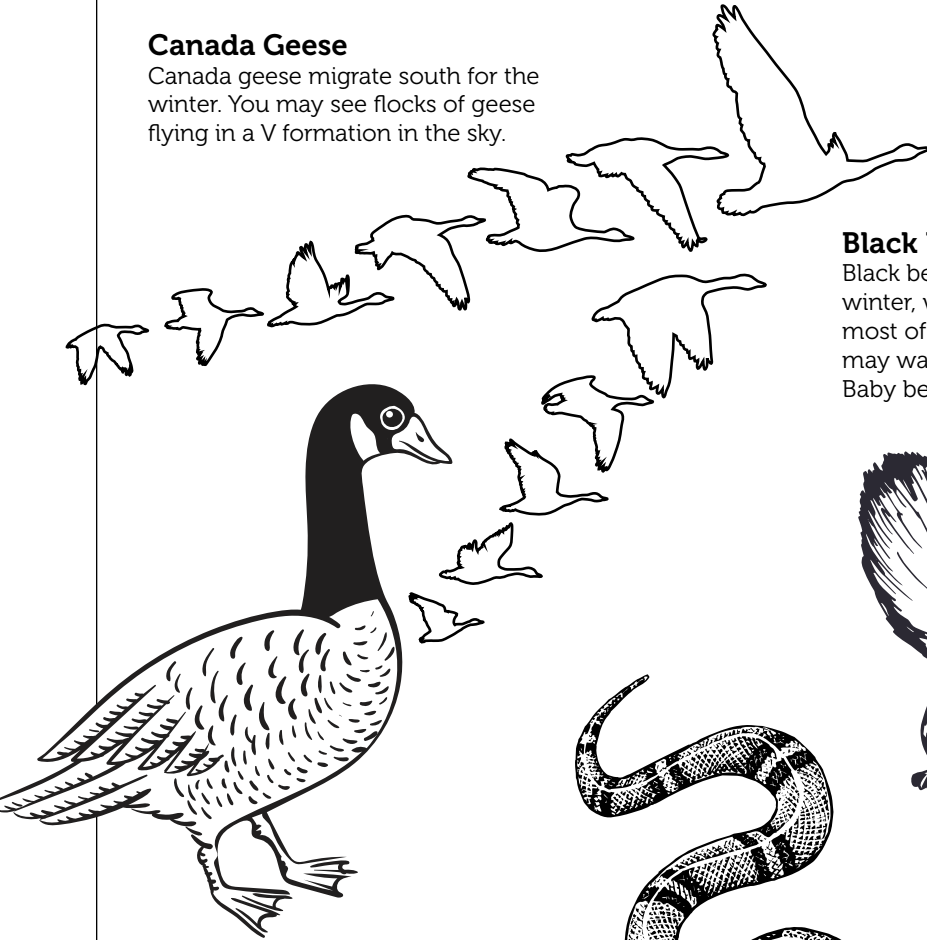


How Animals Prepare for Winter

Winter is almost here! For people, this means wearing lots of warm clothes, like sweaters, parkas, hats, and mittens. But preparing for winter isn't as easy for Maine's native species! You may spot squirrels gathering acorns in your local park or see Canada geese flying south for the season. **Below, learn about how different animals prepare for the cold months ahead, then color them in!**

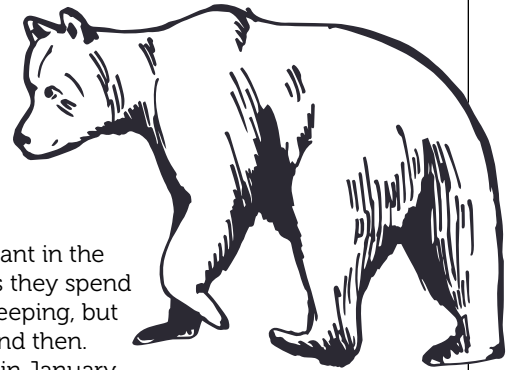
Canada Geese

Canada geese migrate south for the winter. You may see flocks of geese flying in a V formation in the sky.



Black Bear

Black bears go dormant in the winter, which means they spend most of their time sleeping, but may wake up now and then. Baby bears are born in January.



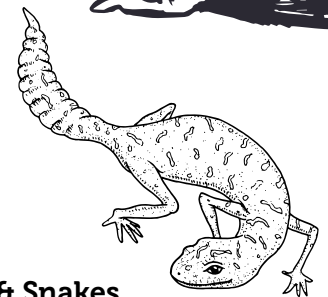
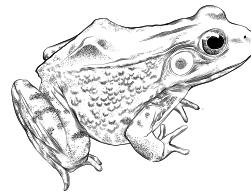
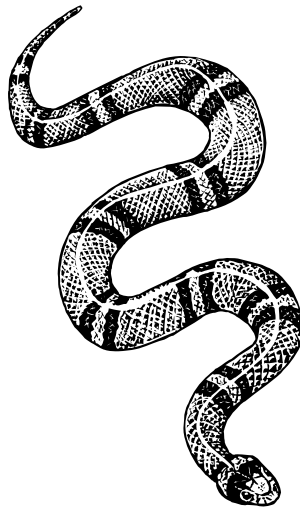
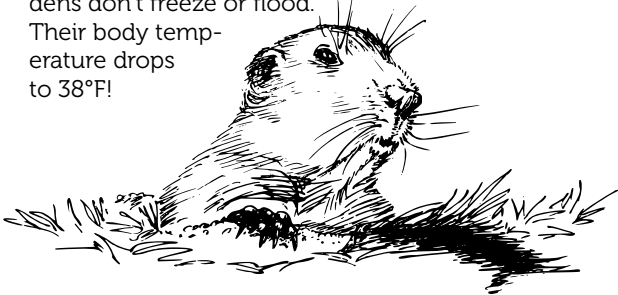
Squirrels & Chipmunks

Squirrels and chipmunks get cozy in their dens, but they don't hibernate, they just sleep a lot! They emerge every few days to gather more food.



Groundhogs

Groundhogs hibernate in dens dug below the frost line but above the water line, so their dens don't freeze or flood. Their body temperature drops to 38°F!



Frogs, Salamanders, & Snakes

Cold-blooded creatures like reptiles go into a state of brumation. They burrow underground and hide under rocks and fallen trees, and their body temperature, heart rate, and breathing slows.