

A Caribou Year: Answer Key

1 - What is the primary winter food for Porcupine Herd caribou?

c) lichens

- 2 Scientists capture caribou in the winter in order to...
 - a) put on new radio collars, take blood samples, and weigh the caribou
- 3 Why are migrating caribou sometimes found in the springtime on high mountain ridges?

b) the snow has been blown away, so walking is easier

- 4 During March and April, scientists try to estimate...
 - d) the number of calves that survived the winter
- 5 In normal years, Porcupine Herd caribou give birth to their calves in Alaska, in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Caribou may calve in Canada, however, if...

b) late snowmelt slows the caribou down

6 - During the calving period, scientists make maps showing...

a) where the calves are born

7 - During the hot days of summer, Porcupine Herd caribou gather together in very large groups - called aggregations - ...

c) in locations where there are fewer insects

8 - When the caribou gather together in large aggregations...

d) scientists photograph the animals from an airplane to count them (to census them)

9 - In the fall, caribou begin moving south toward their winter range when...

a) a storm or cold weather arrives

10 - In the fall, caribou scientists often work in their offices in order to...

c) count the caribou in the census photographs