

Name _____ Date _____

Wolf Watchers

Benjamin was thrilled to be on vacation in Montana. His parents wanted to observe timber wolves in their natural environment.

The first day, his family woke up early and hiked several miles with a guide to a wooded area. During the night, they had heard a wolf's howl, so they were certain there were wolves nearby. They knew that wolves were becoming rare, that they avoided people, and that the best time to spot a wolf was at sunrise. For a long time, they saw deer and elk, but no wolves.

Suddenly they heard leaves crunching softly. Nobody made a sound. Sure enough, it was a wolf! Benjamin's family watched the large, gray wolf for ten minutes before it vanished into the woods. They made plaster casts out of the wolf's tracks. But Benjamin wanted to do something to help the wolves survive.

"You can write a letter to show your support of timber wolves," the guide said.

Benjamin wrote a letter after he finished breakfast. He would remember the trip, and the wolf, for a long time.

1. What did Benjamin's family do in Montana?
2. What would the wolf have done if it had known there were people nearby?