

WOLFING DOWN DINNER!

Wolves eat meat. Animals that eat meat are called carnivores. Wolves must hunt for their food. Animals that hunt are called predators. **Red wolves** hunt prey such as deer, wild pigs, rabbits, nutria, mice and other small mammals. Sometimes they eat insects such as grasshoppers. Hunting for food is hard work. Usually the prey gets away! **Red wolves** eat just about whatever they can catch. Sometimes they may hunt together in packs. Usually they hunt alone or in pairs. The father wolf brings food for the mother wolf when the pups are too young for her to leave them. As the pups are being weaned, the adult wolves carry food to the den in their stomachs and bring it back up for the pups to eat. This is called regurgitation. Carrying food to the den in their own “grocery baskets” keeps it clean for the pups. It is also easier for the adults to carry food back to the den in their stomachs than to carry it in their mouths! When the pups no longer need their mother’s milk, the parents move the family to a rendezvous site, a place where there is shelter and water. Here the pups learn to catch small prey as they gain weight and strength.

- Which foods does a **red wolf** eat? **Circle** the foods!
- Which food do YOU eat? Put an **X** beside the foods!
- Which foods do **red wolves** AND humans eat? **Talk** about the foods!



THINK ABOUT IT! WRITE ABOUT IT!
What does “wolfing your food” mean?
