

Name _____

The Life Cycle of a Bear



Bears go through several stages in their life, from tiny cubs to powerful adults. Their life cycle begins when a mother bear gives birth to her cubs, usually in the winter while she is hibernating. Cubs are born small, blind, and helpless. They rely entirely on their mother for warmth and food.

As the cubs grow, they begin to open their eyes and explore their surroundings. By spring, the mother bear and her cubs leave the den to search for food. Cubs stay with their mother for about one and a half to two years. During this time, the mother teaches them how to find food, climb trees, and stay safe from predators. After this learning period, the young bears become independent. They leave their mother to find their own territories. As they continue to grow, they become stronger and learn to hunt and forage more effectively. Bears reach adulthood around the age of five.

Adult bears can live up to 25 years in the wild. They are powerful animals and need large areas to roam and find food. Bears are mostly solitary creatures, except during mating season or when a mother is caring for her cubs.

The bear's life cycle comes full circle when adult bears find mates and start the process again. This cycle ensures that the species continues to thrive in the wild.