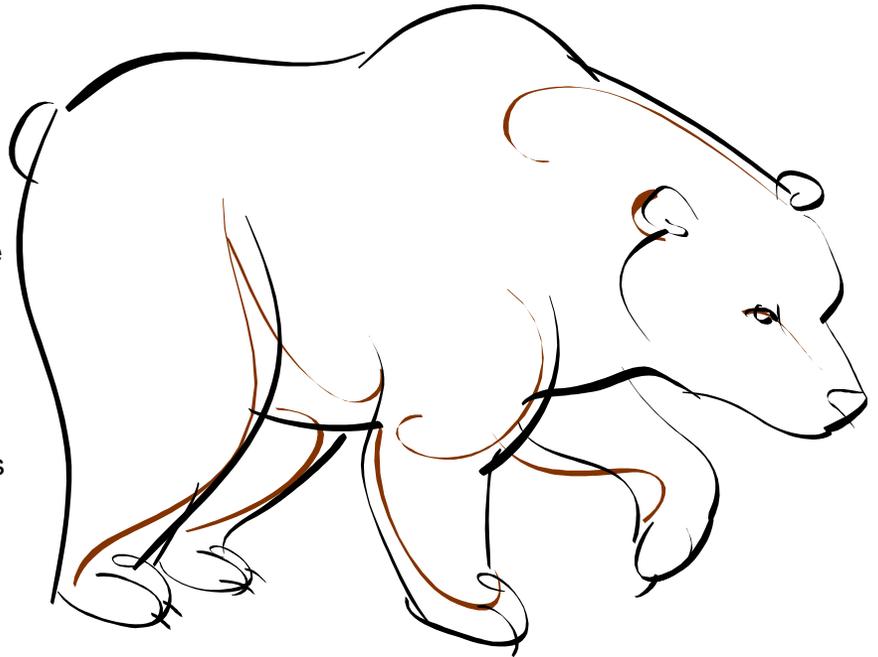




Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Black bears...

- Are big, powerful animals with rounded ears and short, stubby tails.
 - Have five toes on each foot and large canine teeth.
 - May weigh between 125 - 450 pounds when grown.
 - Eat mostly nuts, berries and insects but they can eat animals, too.
 - Have short curved claws and can climb trees very well.
 - Can smell food more than a mile away.
 - Can see in color and have excellent hearing.
 - Have black fur and a tan or black muzzle.
- Some may have a white mark on their chest

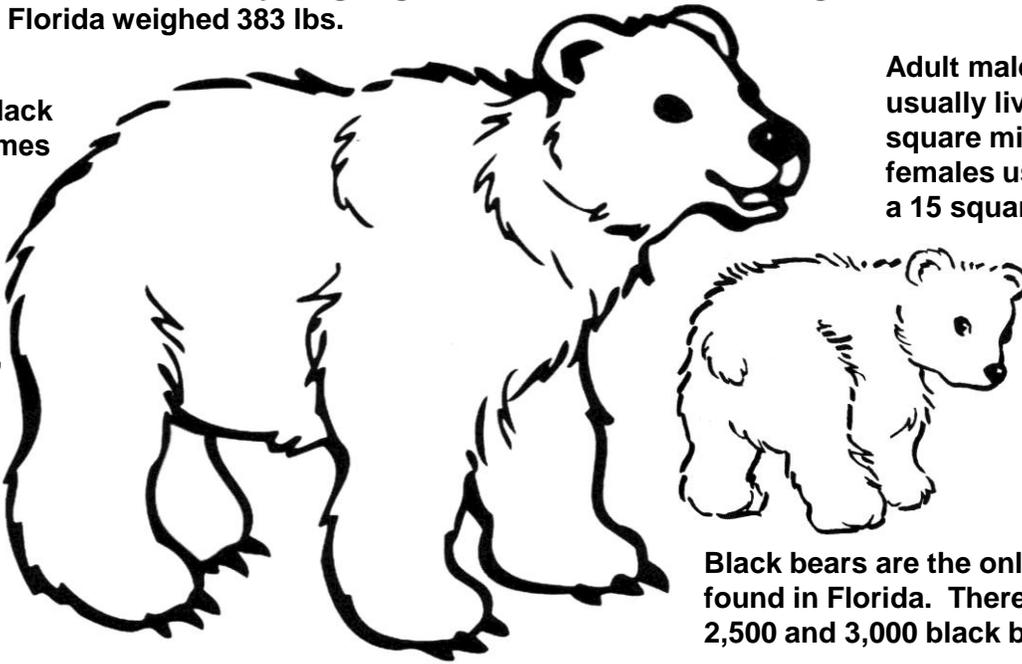




Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Black bears are generally black with a brown muzzle and may have a white chest marking called a blaze. Adult male black bears usually weigh between 250-350 lbs. The largest adult male black bear in Florida weighed 624 lbs. Adult female black bears are smaller than males, usually weighing between 130-180 lbs. The largest adult female black bear in Florida weighed 383 lbs.

About 80 percent of a black bear's diet comes from plants (e.g., fruits, nuts, berries), 15 percent from insects (e.g., termites, ants, yellow jackets) and 5 percent from meat (ie opossums, armadillos, carrion).



Adult male black bears usually live within a 60 square mile area, whereas females usually live within a 15 square mile area.

Bears can run up to 35 miles per hour and climb 100 feet up a tree in 30 seconds!

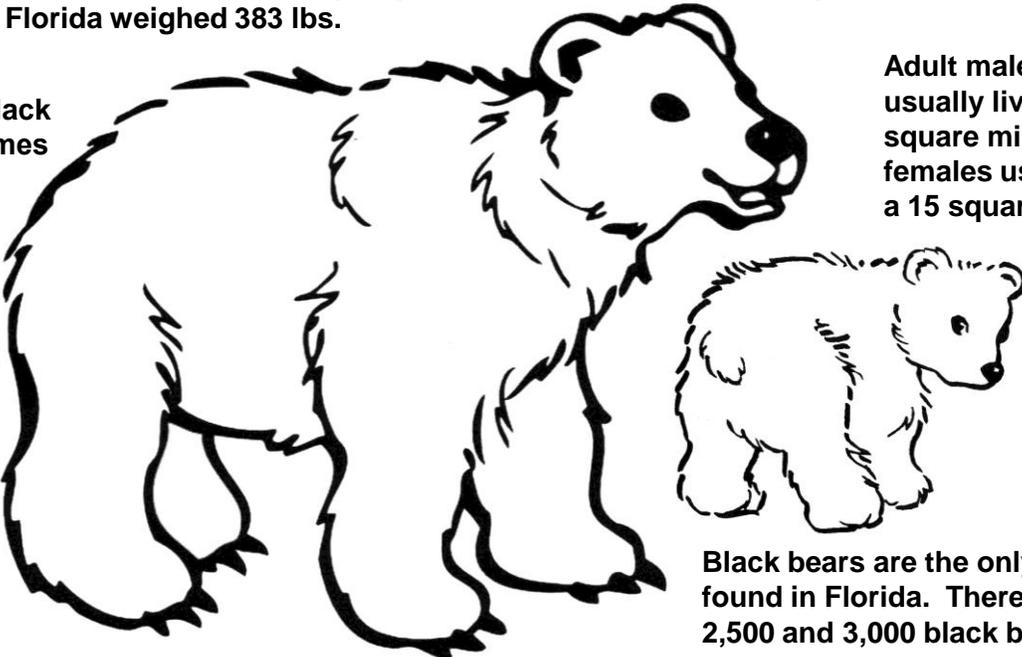
Black bears are the only species of bear found in Florida. There are between 2,500 and 3,000 black bears in Florida.



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