

Episode: Smoky Mountain Diversity

EXPLORING NORTH CAROLINA



USEFUL VOCABULARY

Appalachia
biodiversity
biologist
elevation
endemic
geology
glaciation
homing instinct
inventory
naturalist
old-growth forest
philanthropist
predator
species
taxonomic group
vegetation
wilderness

CHAPTER 2 (0:00–2:24)

1. Where did the Smoky Mountains get their name?
2. How many acres are in Great Smoky Mountains National Park?
3. Great Smoky Mountains National Park was not always a wilderness. Before becoming a national park, much of the land in the Smokies was owned and logged by _____ or farmed and inhabited by _____.
4. Much of the park's land was donated by philanthropist _____, and it was formally dedicated in 1940 by President _____.
5. How many people visit the park annually?

CHAPTER 3 (2:24–7:31)

6. Why is human development a major threat to black bears? How much land does an adult male black bear need to thrive?
7. What do black bears typically eat?
8. Why do bears keep returning to a campground?
9. How do park employees deal with a bear's nuisance behavior?
10. How far away must bears be moved to prevent them from returning? Why?

CHAPTER 4 (7:31–9:39)

11. List some factors that contribute to the exceptional species diversity in Great Smoky Mountains National Park.
12. How has the absence of glaciation in the park led to significant species diversity?

CHAPTER 5 (9:39–15:45)

- 13.** What does ATBI stand for?
- 14.** What is a biodiversity inventory?
- 15.** When did the ATBI begin?
- 16.** Who was Arthur Stupka and how did he help the ATBI process?
- 17.** Before the ATBI, how many species were known in Great Smoky Mountains National Park? How many species have been counted since the ATBI began? How many of those species were previously unknown to science?
- 18.** What kinds of organisms represent the largest number of new species?
- 19.** What special species exists now that was not in the baseline inventory?

CHAPTER 6 (15:45–19:55)

- 20.** In what year was the last elk (in the original native population) seen in the Smokies?
- 21.** When was the first group of elk reintroduced into the park?
- 22.** Why is Great Smoky Mountains National Park a good place for elk to live?
- 23.** Where is the best place to see elk?
- 24.** What is the purpose of bugling?

CHAPTER 7 (19:55–23:28)

- 25.** What techniques were used in the ATBI to find new species?