



Discover New Mexico: Wildlife Education

Growing Bears in New Mexico

Teachers Key: New Mexico's Bear Facts

How Do We Compare?

Black Bear

A black bear becomes an adult at about: **3-1/2 years of age**

Adult male black bear's average height, standing upright: **5-1/2 ft.**

Adult female black bear's average height, standing upright: **4-1/2 ft.**

An adult male black bear's average weight: **250 lbs.**

An adult female black bear's average weight: **130 lbs.**

Average birth weight of a black bear cub: **8 ounces**

Average percentage weight of a one-year old cub: **45 lbs.**

Average percentage weight that a black bear loses hibernation: **20-30% of its body weight**

Length of time a black bear stays with its mother: **16 months**

Average number of cubs in a black bear litter: **Two (2)**

Black bears are born in late **January or February** in the den.

Number of teeth an adult black bear has: **42 teeth**

Average length of an adult black bear's hind foot: **8 inches**

An adult black bear can run **30-35** miles per hour for short distances

Black bear's average life span in its natural environment in New Mexico: **6-7 years, up to 20 years**

Black bear's average resting heart rate is **80-100** beats per minute.

Average Student

When do we become adults? _____

Average height: _____

If someone at average weight: _____ (lbs.) lost 30% body weight, how many pounds would they lose? _____

Your birth weight: _____

Average weight (boy or girl) at one year of age: _____

How many years the average student will likely stay at home: _____

Average number of children your mother (or other mothers you know) gave birth to at one time: _____

What month were you born? _____ (the month when you celebrate your birthday)

Number of teeth you have: _____

Length of your foot: _____

How far can you run in one minute? _____

What is the average human life span? _____

What is your resting heart rate per minute? _____