



ASSOCIATION of
FISH & WILDLIFE
AGENCIES

GEORGIA
Project **WILD**

Limiting Factors: How Many Bears?

Georgia Adaptation

Procedure:

1. Make a set of 2" x 2" cards from colored construction paper. Use the chart on this page to determine how many cards of each color to make and what to write on each one.
2. As shown in the chart below, the color of card determines the type of food it represents:
Orange – nuts (acorns, pecans, walnuts, hickory nuts)
Blue – berries and fruit (blackberries, elderberries, raspberries, apples, wild cherries)
Yellow – insects (grub worms, larvae, ants, termites)
Green – plants (leaves, grasses, herbs) and forbs (legumes, sunflowers, mints, goldenrods, and milkweeds).

Number of Cards to Make for 25 Students

Paper Color	Label	Represents	Number of Cards
Orange	N – 4	Nuts, 4 lbs.	3
Orange	N – 2	Nuts, 2 lbs.	17
Blue	B – 7	Berries, 7 lbs.	3
Blue	B – 3	Berries, 3 lbs.	17
Yellow	I – 2	Insects, 2 lbs.	3
Yellow	I – 1	Insect, 1 lb.	17
Green	G – 5	Plants, 5 lbs.	3
Green	G – 2.5	Plants, 2.5 lbs.	17

The number on each card represents the number of pounds of food. For example, a card with the label N – 4 represents 4 pounds of nuts.

3. The following estimates of total pounds of food needed for one bear per day are used for this activity.

Nuts	3.6 pounds	(20%)
Berries and Fruits	7.1 pounds	(39%)
Insects	2.3 pounds	(13%)
<u>Plants</u>	<u>5.0 pounds</u>	<u>(28%)</u>
	18 pounds	(100%)

NOTE: These figures represent the food of a typical black bear in Georgia. The components of an actual bear's diet will vary between areas, seasons, and years. One similarity among black bears everywhere is that the majority of their diet is normally made up of vegetable material.