

Mammoth Extinction

Lesson Title: Mammoth Extinction

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Name: _____

Use this sheet to answer questions as you explore resources from the **Mammoth Extinction E-Sheet** (<http://www.sciencenetlinks.com/ESheet.cfm?DocID=65>).

More on Mammoths

<http://sciencebulletins.amnh.org/biobulletin/biobulletin/story984.html>

- Why do we seem to know more about mammoths than other extinct, prehistoric animals?
- Size among the mammoths seemed to have varied considerably. To what might this be attributed?
- What do the shape and size of the mammoth's tusks indicate that they might have been used for?
- What is the relationship of the mammoth to the modern elephant?
- According to some scientists, should the mammals have become extinct?

Tusks on the Tundra

<http://sciencebulletins.amnh.org/biobulletin/biobulletin/story982.html>

- Besides MacPhee's theory of a lethal virus, what are the main theories described as to what caused the massive mammalian extinctions featured in this article?
- Why did MacPhee choose Wrangel Island as the best place to look for evidence of his theory?

Hyperdisease Hypothesis

<http://sciencebulletins.amnh.org/biobulletin/biobulletin/story983.html>

- What is a megafauna?
- What were the two unique features of the late Quaternary extinctions noted by MacPhee?