



Bambi and the wild dogs - Answers

Chapter 1:

What colours can alpacas be?

There are officially 22 different colours of alpacas but many are really just shades. From most people's points of view there are:

- White
- Light Fawn (which is an off white colour)
- Mid and Dark Fawn (light browns)
- Brown
- Black
- Grey
- Rose Grey (a reddish grey)

Why are different colours more valued?

There are a few reasons depending on what you want the alpaca to do.

Some people like certain colours, for example there are people who breed only black alpacas or only white alpacas.

White fleece can be dyed any colour and is more versatile for that reason although some people will argue that they prefer the natural colours

What do we call animals that drink milk from their mothers?

Mammals

Why would alpacas stop drinking from their mothers?

Most alpacas will keep drinking from their mother for as long as they can. They usually stop because:

- The mother has had another baby. This can cause some jealousy so a few months before the mother is due to have the baby people will usually separate them into different paddocks
- The mother is getting weak. In this case people will usually separate the mother and baby
- The mother decides she has had enough and wont stand still when the baby tries to drink.

How old is an alpaca when it can have a baby?

Usually they can get pregnant at around 10 months of age although it is usual to wait somewhere between 12 to 18 months.

It depends also on the size of the alpaca as once they are pregnant they tend to stop growing. People tend to control the timing depending on times they do not want the baby to come. For example at Lemarli we do not want cria between May and August as the nights get very cold and frosty



What is a female alpaca called?

A hembra

A male alpaca is called a macho. How do we use this word in Australia ?

Macho is often used to describe someone that is a very strong male.

Chapter 2:

What other animals are born this way?

Most four legged animals.

How are alpaca births different to a chicken being born?

Chickens lay eggs which hatch while the alpaca develops inside the mothers body

Why is a multicoloured fleece less valuable?

Somebody has to sort through the colours and this costs money

What would you do if Bambi could not stand up and feed?

First wait a while (they usually get up eventually)

You can get the Vet

You can take mother and cria in the shed and dry the cria off with a hairdryer. This might make her stronger

You can bottle feed the cria.

What colour baby do you think you would get if there was a:

White hembra and white macho?

- Usually a white (but it depends on the grandparents and great grandparents)

White hembra and brown macho?

- White.
- Brown.
- White and Brown
- A fawn colour

Brown hembra and black macho?

- Brown
- Black
- Brown and black

Brown and white hembra and brown macho?

- Brown
- White
- Brown and white
- Fawn



Chapter 3:

How old are cria before they start to be the same size?

By the time they are 1 year old they have settled to their adult size

How would you feel if Mandela always let you win?

You would start to get a little bored, maybe feel a little upset.

Why would a baby die if it was born too early?

Its lungs or other organs may not be formed properly

It might not be able to stand to feed.

Why do you think Inti's baby was born too early?

Inti was so stressed about the dogs that her body went into a “fight” response and put all its energy into protecting her at the expense of the baby.

Have you ever felt useless? What did you do about it?

You could just be sad or you could try and find something else you are good at.

Chapter 4:

Alpacas come from South America . What is the winter like there?

It is very cold in the Andes Mountains . There is snow and ice and very little water in places.

Why does the fox kill the chickens?

For food. Foxes seem to attack the chickens when they have cubs and need to feed them.

If the fox can't kill the chickens at Lemarli what will happen to the fox?

It would probably kill swamphens and ducks.

Are foxes native to Australia ?

No foxes are considered a pest.

Are alpacas native to Australia ?

No. They are livestock.

Why does Bambi sleep in the middle of the herd?

The herd protects the cria from any possible attack. Cria can be attacked by foxes, dogs and even eagles.



Why do you think the fox buried the chicken rather than took it to eat?

It realised Inti had won and that it did not deserve the chicken.

Chapter 5:

What sounds can you use to describe spring?

Birds chirping, water tinkling, alpacas crunching grass

What happens to alpacas if you don't cut their toenails? What happens to you if you don't cut your toenails?

They tend to beak and it hurts. This can cause infections.

What is the difference between a wild dog and someone's pet dog?

Not a lot. Wild dogs often are someone's dog that they have let roam.

How do alpacas protect lambs?

They stomp and kick dogs and foxes.

Why had Inti misjudged Bambi?

She did not think that Bambi could fight dogs.

What is meant by respect?

People see you as valuable. They appreciate what you do.