

To know more about ... the reindeers !

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THIS ACCOMPLICE

**DID YOU RECOGNIZE THIS
ACCOMPLICE OF SANTA CLAUS ?**

**In Europe and America,
it is called "reindeer" !**

**The reindeer is a warm-blooded animal whose body must
keep the same temperature!**

**In winter, a thick fur-coat is therefore protecting it from the
cold.**

Just like the bear, the reindeer has hollow hair !!!

Its nose is a kind of "heat exchanger" that warms the air!

DID YOU KNOW ???

**In winter, reindeer spreads its 2 main
hooves which makes snowshoes to walk in
the snow without sinking !!!**

**Because the reindeer is so curious, it will
approach hunters who are waving
their arms, trying to attract them !!!**





In summer, the reindeer loses its winter fur : it moults !

**In summer, it looks for patches of "eternal snow" . . .
Here, it'll rest to keep away from thousands of mosquitoes !!!**



All the reindeers have wonderful horns or antlers which change color throughout the seasons. They change from red to dark brown before breaking in the winter ... but they grow back each spring increasing a branch every year !



**DID YOU KNOW ???
The antlers of the reindeers are bones
irrigated by blood vessels.**



The herd moves continuously during the day in search of food , making long migrations . . .

In winter, reindeer's hooves are used as shovels to dig the snow and find lichen, their favorite food . . .

Lichen is a plant composed of an alga and a fungus living together . . .

Lichens have lots of different colors !





For a long time, Sami domesticated the reindeer,



because it is a very useful animal ...

it gives meat and milk which we drink ...

its skin is used to make clothes ...

its bones and antlers make harpoons, crafts ...

the reindeer can also pull sleds . . .

... particularly that of SANTA CLAUS !!!





In prehistoric times, the men already hunted reindeer . . .

. . . to eat, to use its bones as tools and its fur as clothes !

The reindeer is painted on some prehistoric sites

(pictures were taken in Alta, Norwegian Lapland)





Today, reindeers live without too much difficulty nearby people !!!

... but they always run away from polar bears and polar foxes, their predators !!!

