

**Thank you for having taken part in our quiz!
We hope you have had a good time.**

You should now be back at the Montroc-le-Planet station.
You might like to know that the picturesque hamlets
of Montroc and le Planet are well worth the visit.
More trails and hidden gems await you!

**Now all you have to do is pop into the Argentière or Chamonix
tourist offices to get your answers checked !**

GOOD LUCK!

YOUR SKETCHES:



Conception : Cybergraph Chamonix

OFFICE DE TOURISME DE LA VALLÉE DE CHAMONIX-MONT-BLANC

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CHAMONIX-MONT-BLANC

NATURE AND HERITAGE QUIZ



EXPLORE TRÉLECHAMP AND THE AIGUILLES ROUGES NATURE RESERVE

**For over a century, the Mont-Blanc-Express links the villages
and hamlets of the Chamonix Valley. Take advantage of this free
service and discover the hidden treasures of our valley!**



For families and friends of all ages
Allow 2h30 to 3 hours, but take as long as you like!
From June to September, depart from Montroc-le-Planet railway station*

SERVOZ - LES HOUCHES - CHAMONIX-MONT-BLANC - ARGENTIÈRE - VALLORCINE

*Check the opening hours of the Nature Reserve chalet before you set off

#1

On leaving the station, walk adjacent to the railway line in the direction of the tunnel where you will pick up the path Via des Cutes. On your right you will see an imposing 5-storey building with magnificent wrought iron balconies. Built in the early 1900s in conjunction with the train, this hotel has since been converted to private apartments.

What is the name of the building?



#2

Continue along the path for approximately 300m until you come to an intersection. Take the right-hand path towards the Col des Montets. Immediately on your right meet the totems. Sculpted in 2012, the work is entitled "The Weight of the World – Syria".

How many are they ?



#3

Continue through the meadows and observe the small wooden constructions. In French they are called *grenier*, which translates to grain store.

What is another name for them - of Swiss origin - beginning with M?

Choose a grenier and draw it.

#4

You are about to reach the road leading to the col des Montets which you must walk along with caution for 75m until you can get back onto the pathway on your right. You are now in the Aiguilles Rouges nature reserve.

The forest that you are walking through is home to 3 mammals. Can you unscramble their names? DARBEG • LURQSIRE • XFO

#5

Cross the carpark and follow the botanical trail. The vegetation illustrates how nature has reclaimed its rights on the land. 60 years ago, this area was grazed by cattle in the spring and autumn before and after their summers in the alpine pastures.

Why is this no longer the case?

#6

A little further along the path will see a number of large paving stones, vestiges of an old mule track, which once linked Chamonix to Martigny via the Col des Montets and the Col de la Forclaz.

In which country is the Roman city of Martigny located?



#7

You will soon see a small lake to the right. Take the path around its shore and discover an information panel dedicated to high-altitude wetlands.

Name two amphibians found in this lake.



#8

The Col des Montets can be quite hostile in winter due to huge quantities of snow. Find the rock (photo) on the right of the path. It is called the Charlet stone, in memory of locals who perished in an avalanche here.

There are inscriptions carved in the stone. Can you read the date on the bottom line?

#9

You have arrived at the top of the pass. If you are a keen cyclist, you might like to know that the Tour de France has been this way on 6 occasions since 1947.

What is the altitude of the Col des Montets?

#10

Opposite you is the Aiguilles Rouges chalet-laboratory, which manages the 4,000 hectares of the reserve, created in 1974. Enter the chalet, the staff will be delighted to assist you in your quest.

Find the 3 animals/birds exhibited here, that change colour to adapt to the season.



#11

Observe the impressive ibex and with the help of the staff, give an estimation of his age when he died from natural causes.

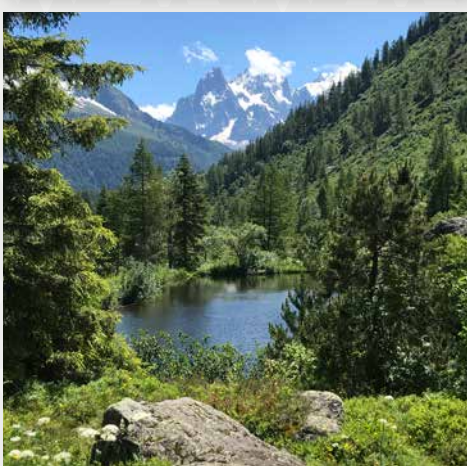
a. between 11 and 14 years
b. between 15 and 18 years
c. between 19 and 22 years

#12

The bearded vulture is a protected bird that feeds on bones and marrow. It is also known as the bone breaker.

What is its technique for breaking the bones that are too large to be swallowed whole?

What is the wing span of an adult bird?



#13

Leave the chalet and admire the landscape. In front of you a superb lake is half concealed by massive rocks. Contrary to the granite of the Mont-Blanc Massif, the Aiguilles Rouges (red needles) are composed of gneiss. The oxidation of one of the components of gneiss produces the red rust colour that have given the mountains their name.

What is this mineral component?

#14

On leaving the chalet, continue along the nature trail to your right. Alongside the path you will see alpine rhododendrons, juniper and blueberry bushes.

What alcohol is made with juniper berries?

What is a popular use for blueberries?



#15

At the panel dedicated to subalpine and alpine habitats, observe the rocks on the ground covered with yellow-green patches. These forms play a very important role from an ecological point of view because they constitute the first organic matter to settle, including in hostile environments.

What is their name?

#16

Continue straight ahead and at the stone marker, take the left path. You are in marmot territory.

These rodent mammals have a very varied diet and feed on over 100 different plants. They live in burrows composed of many galleries and hibernate from end of October to early April.

How do they communicate to alert the colony of danger?

Which bird do they fear most?

In French, baby marmots are called:

a. Marmouzets
b. Marmottons
c. Marmites

#17

Continue towards the end of the trail and enjoy the panorama with the Aiguille Verte, les Drus and the Argentière glacier before you.

What is the name of the prestigious ski area beneath the Aiguille Verte?

#18

Now cross the road back to the car park and return back down towards Trélé-champs by the same path you took on your way up. When you leave the road to rejoin the path, take the right-hand trail alongside the torrent.

Look carefully, you might see a Fario (Brown). What is it?

#19

You will arrive in the delightful hamlet of Trélechamps, with its gîte La Boerne, the perfect place for a refreshment stop!

What is a Boerne?

What is the etymology of Trélechamps?



#20

Go left in front of the Boerne along the chemin du Cantonner and then continue in the direction of Montroc. Down to your right you will see the village of Les Frasserands, birthplace of two famous mountain guides: Jean-Esteril Charlet-Straton, first to climb the Petit Dru in 1879 and Armand Charlet.

Which summit did the latter climb 100 times ?