FAIR CHASERS

Welcome, Fair Chasers. You're honorable qualities make you a special group of hunters who have a deep-seated respect for your quarry and natural resources. You live by a creed that directs hunters to pursue big game animals in a way that does not give hunters an unfair advantage over wildlife. By following these ethical standards, your group engages in a one-to-one relationship with wildlife that intimately connects you with the circle of life. Your group prides itself for enhancing the well-being of wildlife by supporting conservation of natural resources and the sustainable use of wildlife resources.

But after reading some personal blogs about hunting, your group is concerned that other hunters are unethically harvesting their wild game, which may cause public opinions about hunting to down-spiral! Your group has decided to put things right by educating hunters and the public about your group’s code of ethics so all people can discover the spirit of responsible hunting.

To understand your group's ethics, research about the following topics that your group has identified as hunting concerns:

• “Fair chase” means …. ___________________________________________________________________________________
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• To fair chase hunters, an unfair advantage means … ___________________________________________________________________________________
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• You believe hunters should not use technologies that can give hunters an unfair advantage over wildlife. These technologies would give hunters an unfair advantage over wildlife: ________________________________
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• You believe hunters must strive to cause minimum suffering. How can hunters strive for a quick, clean kill?
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• What is good marksmanship and what does shooting practice have to do with it? ________________________________
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• What is the maximum effective range? Why should hunters only stay within their effective range?  
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• You believe hunters should limit their shots to only the vital organs. What is a vital shot? And how does the angle of the animal to the hunter change this?  
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• You believe hunters should understand their wild game before hunting. What wildlife biology should hunters research about their animals?  
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• Hunters must abide by hunting laws and regulations. What kinds of laws must be followed? How can hunters report game violations?  
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• You think downed animals should not be wasted. They can be harvested for ...  
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• What are other ways hunters can be respectful to wildlife while hunting?  
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Next, share your findings with your team members. As a group, develop your ethical guidelines (or “code of ethics” in other words) on a separate sheet of paper or on your computer. Then design a pamphlet that educates hunters about your code of ethics that hunters can live by. Your group will present your pamphlet to the class and use it to debate multiple hunting scenarios. So jam pack your pamphlet with as much useful information as you can, and create an eye-catching pamphlet by decorating it with images and graphics! Have a blast decoding your ethics, and remember ... responsibility is key.