**Carnivores of India independent QVK study**

This was a homework assignment students had to complete while I was in India.

**Quaardvark Lab – Team Independent Study (10 points for the team)**

Time investment: This assignment should take 2-4 hours and replace the lab periods during my time in India.

Objective: After completing this assignment you will be able to:

* Set up a query in Quaardvark (Q)
* Save a query to the backpack in Q
* Download the results of the query to an excel file
* Manipulate data in the Excel file
* Organize the data into a table for a presentation
* Work as a team to troubleshoot problems

Question: How many mammalian carnivores are native to India? What families do they belong to? What mating systems are represented (e.g. monogamy, polygamy) and is there a correlation between mating system and family? What is the size range of Indian carnivores? What is the smallest carnivore and what is the largest carnivore in India?

How to do it:

Login to Q.

Setting up the query: Click on Query and Report. Click edit next to Animal Group and type carnivores. Click Save. Under Report (What do you want to know about them) Click edit next to taxonomic rank, select family and then select save changes. Click add more data, select Geographic Range and Biogeographic Regions. Select Report keywords in their own column and under the appropriate region [Question; what biogeographic region includes India?] select native, save changes. Click add data, select physical description, select mass, select kg, save. Click add data, select Reproduction: Mating Systems, select Mating System, choose List keywords under a column Mating System, save changes. Click Submit. Select Save to Backpack and give it a title.

Question: How many carnivores were returned in the query? What does the “Yes” signify in the biogeographic region column?

Helpful Hint: You can click on the up/down arrows at the top of the column to sort results – try this by sorting based on biogeographic region so that all the species with a yes in that column appear first.

Click download to save as an excel file and save to your computer. In excel, sort by the biogeographic region column and delete all entries that don’t have a “Yes”.

Question; How many carnivores are remaining? How can you determine using Q or Animal Diversity Web (ADW) which of these are found in India?

Helpful Hint: The Species column in your query includes links to each species account. Try selecting one to look at.

Insert a column titled “Common name” where you can enter the common name of each carnivore, and “Found in India” where you will write “yes” or “no” based on further research within Q or ADW [Hint: fill in the Found in India column first so you don’t type common names you may delete in the next step]. Sort by Found in India and delete those that say “no”.

Question: How many carnivores are remaining?

Write a short paragraph summarizing the data that answers the questions posed in the original question above. Organize the data into tables where appropriate. Also include in the paragraph where you ran into problems and how/if you were able to solve those problems.

Due November 5th in class; since I will be out of touch you will have no opportunity to ask me any questions when you run into a problem. Turn in a single report from the team. Include the names and signatures of all the team members on the report.