

# FLORA FAUNA NEWS

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## Animals and Their Grocery Store



By Brian Kanke  
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An animals daily job is to eat, and they are better at selection than we do at the grocery store.

Nature is the animals grocery store. I observe deer on a daily basis using different observation methods. I also give them access to a variety of plants. They are very methodical in their eating habits. They will go eat the same plant around the same time and it's all based around their activity level at the time. They never eat a lot at one time but will eat it several times throughout the day.

Deer are inactive when it comes to eating after dark. An explanation to their methodology could be: "While familiarity with a food item that meets a particular nutritional requirement is a precursor to high initial intake, animals, over time, can develop what are known as "conditioned taste aversions."

Conditioned taste aversions are believed to have evolved as a survival mechanism that inhibits animals from over-ingesting foods that may be nutritionally adequate but contain toxins, or foods that are inadequate (excessive or inadequate) in nutrients that, perhaps, taste good." Just to give you an idea of what I observe the deer eating in a day are as follows; Poke Berry, Moringa, Alfalfa, Wild Persimmons, Feed pellets, Clover, Lichens and Corn. One thing is for sure if they get offered candy like us, they never turn it down.

If you have a topic or a question you would like addressed in the next newsletter please email us. We always appreciate pictures of the funny things animals will do. God Bless and Keep Animals Happy and Healthy!

### Did You Know?



- Elephants are the only animal that can't jump.
- Giraffes have no vocal chords.
- Bats always turn left when leaving a cave.
- Sheep can recognize faces.
- Kangaroos can't fart.



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