“Animal Wisdom” Study Guide

1. How would you describe the animals in “Animal Wisdom”?
2. What are some examples of personification (anthropomorphism) from the first poem?
3. Explain the relationship between animals and people in “Animal Wisdom.”
4. What does “Animal Wisdom” say about animals and their understanding of the Earth?
5. Describe the city in “The Lost Wolf” and gives examples of imagery from the poem that support this.
6. In “The Last Wolf,” what has caused the destruction of the city?
7. What does the line of imagery, “in the mystery of his wild loping gait” mean? Which of the senses (sight, taste, touch, hearing, smell) does it appeal to?
8. What is the overall mood of each poem?
9. When does “Animal Wisdom” seem to take place? (past, present or future)
10. Compare and contrast the mood/feeling of each poem. Use specific evidence from the text.
11. How do the animals communicate their wisdom in each poem? In other words, how do they actually communicate? Is it through words, facial expressions, actions? Give specific examples to support your answer.