

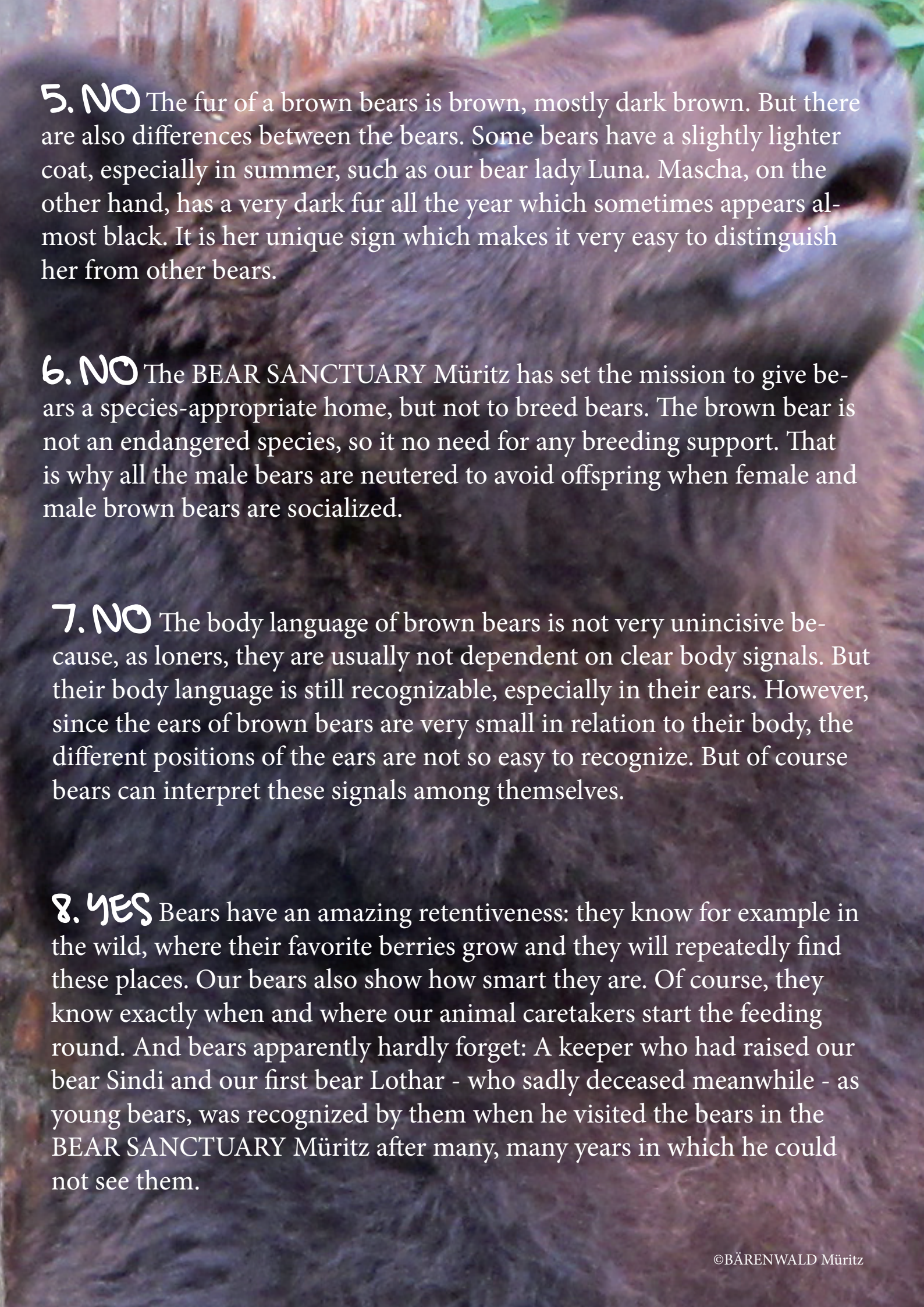
SOLUTIONS

1. YES Our animal caretaker observe the bears every day to evaluate their state of health or any behavioral change to be able to react as quickly as possible if needed. That is the reason why they also know which fruit or vegetables from the daily food range each bear eats first and what each bear particularly likes. For example, Luna likes grapes, Pavle walnuts, and Sylvia pears. And almost all bears especially adore water melons.

2. QUIET Bears use the whole sole of their feet when they walk. So like all bears, brown bears are plantigrades. The soles are soft and firm at the same time and, by the way, feel similar to a rubber ball. These soft soles are the reason why bears move silently through the woods.

3. YES Brown bears in the wild live can become approximately years old, in their mid-twenties wild bears are considered as old. In sanctuaries, however, bears can become older than 30 years. There are cases where bears turned 41 years old. Our oldest bear was Susi. She died in the BEAR SANCTUARY Müritz in 2018 at the age of 37. In sanctuaries, bears usually get older because of regular veterinary check-ups. Tapsi and Sindi are currently our oldest bears with the age of 30.

4. NO Although all of our bears were born in captivity and are used to human beings, they are not tame. Therefore our animal caretakes never go into the bears' enclosure and lock the bears away before entering the enclosure. The animal caretakers always work as a team of two persons for feeding and cleaning work. Whenever our bears need to be physical examined during a vet-check, they have to be anaesthetised by a veterinarian.



5. NO The fur of a brown bears is brown, mostly dark brown. But there are also differences between the bears. Some bears have a slightly lighter coat, especially in summer, such as our bear lady Luna. Mascha, on the other hand, has a very dark fur all the year which sometimes appears almost black. It is her unique sign which makes it very easy to distinguish her from other bears.

6. NO The BEAR SANCTUARY Müritz has set the mission to give bears a species-appropriate home, but not to breed bears. The brown bear is not an endangered species, so it no need for any breeding support. That is why all the male bears are neutered to avoid offspring when female and male brown bears are socialized.

7. NO The body language of brown bears is not very unincisive because, as loners, they are usually not dependent on clear body signals. But their body language is still recognizable, especially in their ears. However, since the ears of brown bears are very small in relation to their body, the different positions of the ears are not so easy to recognize. But of course bears can interpret these signals among themselves.

8. YES Bears have an amazing retentiveness: they know for example in the wild, where their favorite berries grow and they will repeatedly find these places. Our bears also show how smart they are. Of course, they know exactly when and where our animal caretakers start the feeding round. And bears apparently hardly forget: A keeper who had raised our bear Sindi and our first bear Lothar - who sadly deceased meanwhile - as young bears, was recognized by them when he visited the bears in the BEAR SANCTUARY Müritz after many, many years in which he could not see them.