

Primary Worksheets: Squirrel



There are more than 200 different species of squirrel that live all over the world. They are rodents that have long bushy tails. The squirrel is the most common wild mammal in many cities that live on all continents except for Australia and Antarctica.

The two main types of squirrels are tree, and ground squirrels. The tree squirrel makes their home in trees, while the ground squirrel lives in holes under deserts and fields.

Squirrels are small but are known for their quick movements. They can make long jumps between tree branches. Flying squirrels can glide through the air, looking like they can fly! They can glide to almost 450 meters far.



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Squirrels have large eyes that help them see where they are going when climbing trees and escaping from predators. They have a wide vision that allows them to see what is behind them!

They have four large front teeth which are used for gnawing. The teeth can grow up to 15 centimeters per year and will continue growing throughout their life. This is useful to them, as they like to eat a large number of seeds and nuts, that can wear out their teeth.

Squirrels eat mostly plants, including berries and tree bark. They are considered to be pests because they eat farm crops and carry diseases. Some squirrels are hunted for their fur and meat! When they are eating, they do not focus on their food, they are always on the lookout for predators!

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Only ground squirrels hibernate during the cold winter months. Most squirrels don't hibernate, instead they stash food for the cold season and spend their time in their nests until it is Spring.

Squirrels are most active during sunrise and sunset but can change depending on the season. They are clean and hard-working animals. They groom themselves and will make sure that their nest is not attacked by insects.

Adult squirrels like to live alone, but when it is very cold, they will share nests with others. They communicate through body language and tail movements. If you see two squirrels chasing each other during February to May, it is mating season!



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Grey squirrels have babies twice a year, usually in late winter and summer. Every litter has between three to four pups. When the babies are born, they are unable to open their eyes, making them blind. After four weeks, they open.

A baby squirrel has the chance of surviving if cared for by its mother. It is common to see squirrels carrying a lost baby back into the nest! After six weeks of age, the babies are able to explore outside of their nest. After ten weeks, they are able to go out on their own.

There are many rare squirrels in the wild. The rarest is the albino gray squirrel, which is white. In the UK, red squirrels are becoming more rarer because of loss of habitat and diseases carried by grey squirrels. The most common squirrel is the grey squirrel.



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Answer the questions.

What is a squirrel?

What do they look like?

What do they eat?



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Answer the questions.

Why do they need to gnaw on hard food?

When are they active?

What do they do during winter?

