

## Signs of Mammals (for all ages!)












Signs of mammals are all around us, even in urban places like neighborhoods and cities. What is a mammal? They are warm blooded animals that have fur, like cats and dogs and humans! Many wild mammals are hard to see because they hide from humans or they are awake when we are asleep. Because they are so sneaky, sometimes the only way for us to know they are around is by finding tracks, chew marks, and poop (scat)! Check out the activities below to find signs of mammals around your home!

There are many animals living around us that we can't always see. **How do we know they are there even if we don't see them?**

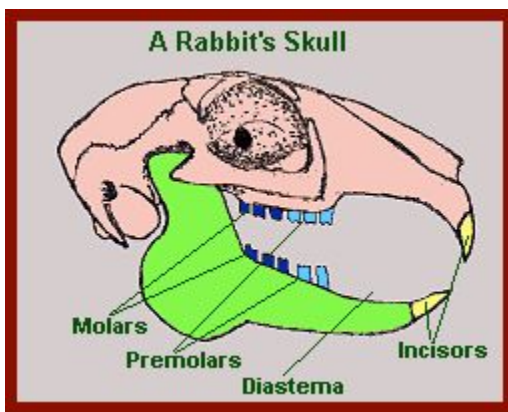


New Mexico's bosque has many mammals that you might not be able to see, but you can find signs of them by what they leave behind. *Match the bosque mammal with the type of food it eats (a, b, and c) and its scat (1, 2, and 3). Hint: some of the animals eat more than one type of food!*

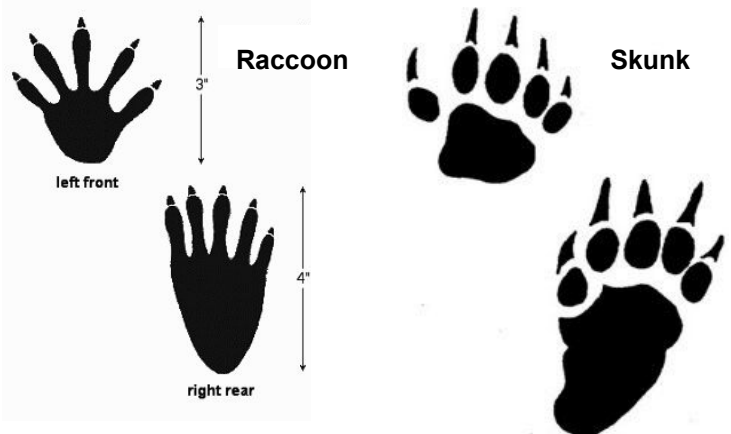
Food	Mammal	Scat
 a.	 Porcupine	 1.
 b.	 Bobcat	 2.
 c.	 Coyote	 3.

**Take it to the next level!** Here are a few things you can do to learn about more about mammals:

1. Mammal teeth are very specialized to what they eat. **Take a look at this rabbit skull.** What is each type of tooth used for? How would the teeth be different for a dog or coyote?



2. Animal tracks are a great way to see what mammals are in your area. Did you know that the front and back foot prints of an animal can be different? **Find some tracks in your neighborhood and draw them.** Do you think it is a front or back foot? What animal do you think this came from?



*What signs of mammals can you find around you? Is it signs of them eating or is it their scat? Is it primarily dog or cat scat? What do you think the animals do when we can't see them?*

Answer key: Porcupine (A, C, 2), Bobcat (B, 1), Coyote (A, B, 3)