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SQUIRREL ACROBATS



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Focus Question

In what ways are gray squirrels like acrobats?

Words to Know

acrobats direction

alert escape

balance squirrels

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EDITOR'S NOTE: Gray squirrels are the most common squirrels in North America. There are over two hundred species of squirrels in the world. Most of the different species can be considered nature's acrobats, but many do not behave exactly as the gray squirrel does.

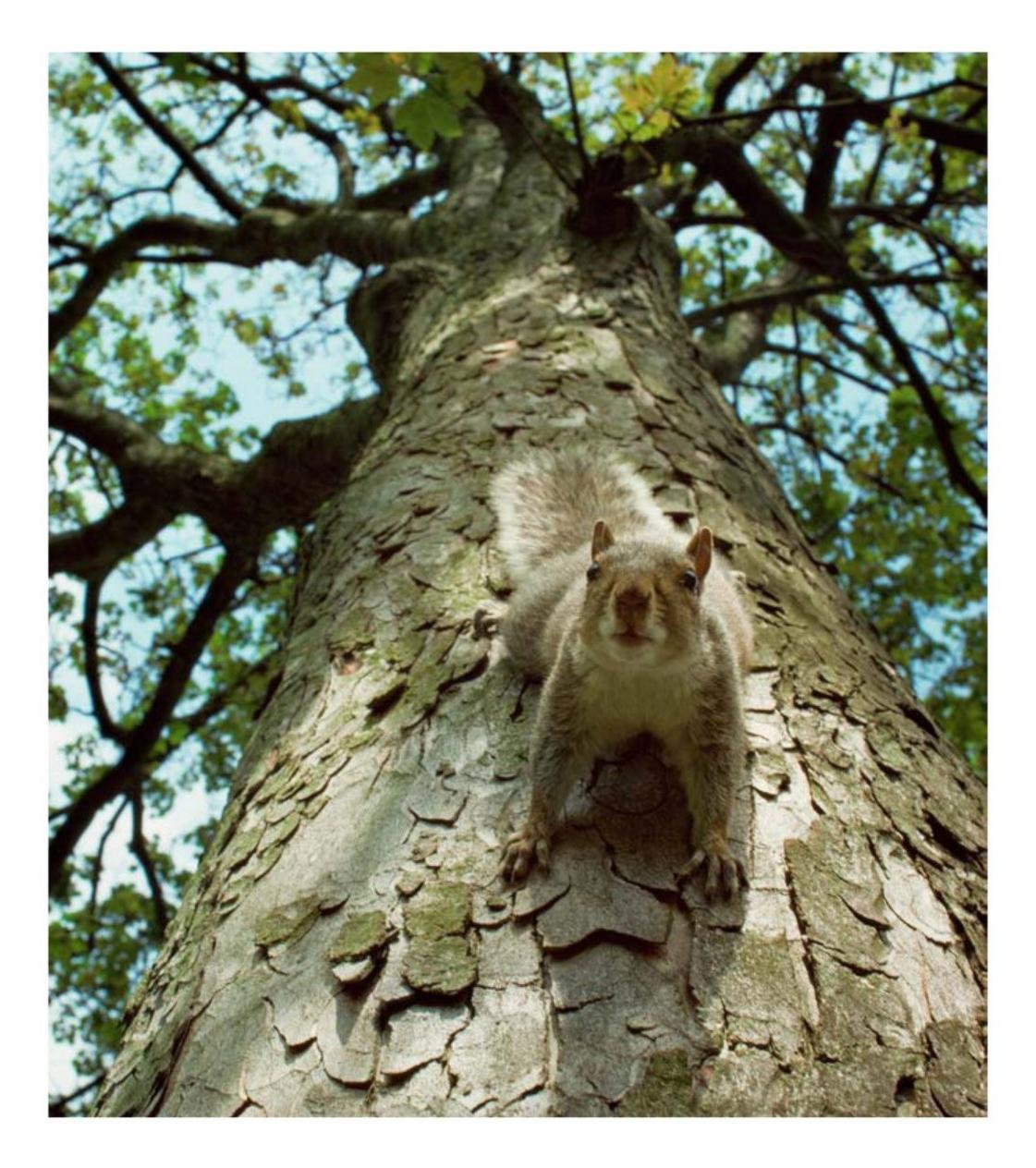
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Correlation

LEVEL G	
Fountas & Pinnell	G
Reading Recovery	11–12
DRA	12



Gray squirrels are some of nature's acrobats.

They move quickly and easily to find food or escape from other animals.

They dart or dash across the ground.
They can stop quickly with their tails up.



They are alert for danger. They whip their tails from side to side if they see other animals.





They move fast on the ground. They run and leap quickly so that cats or foxes do not catch them.



They cling to tree trunks with their claws.



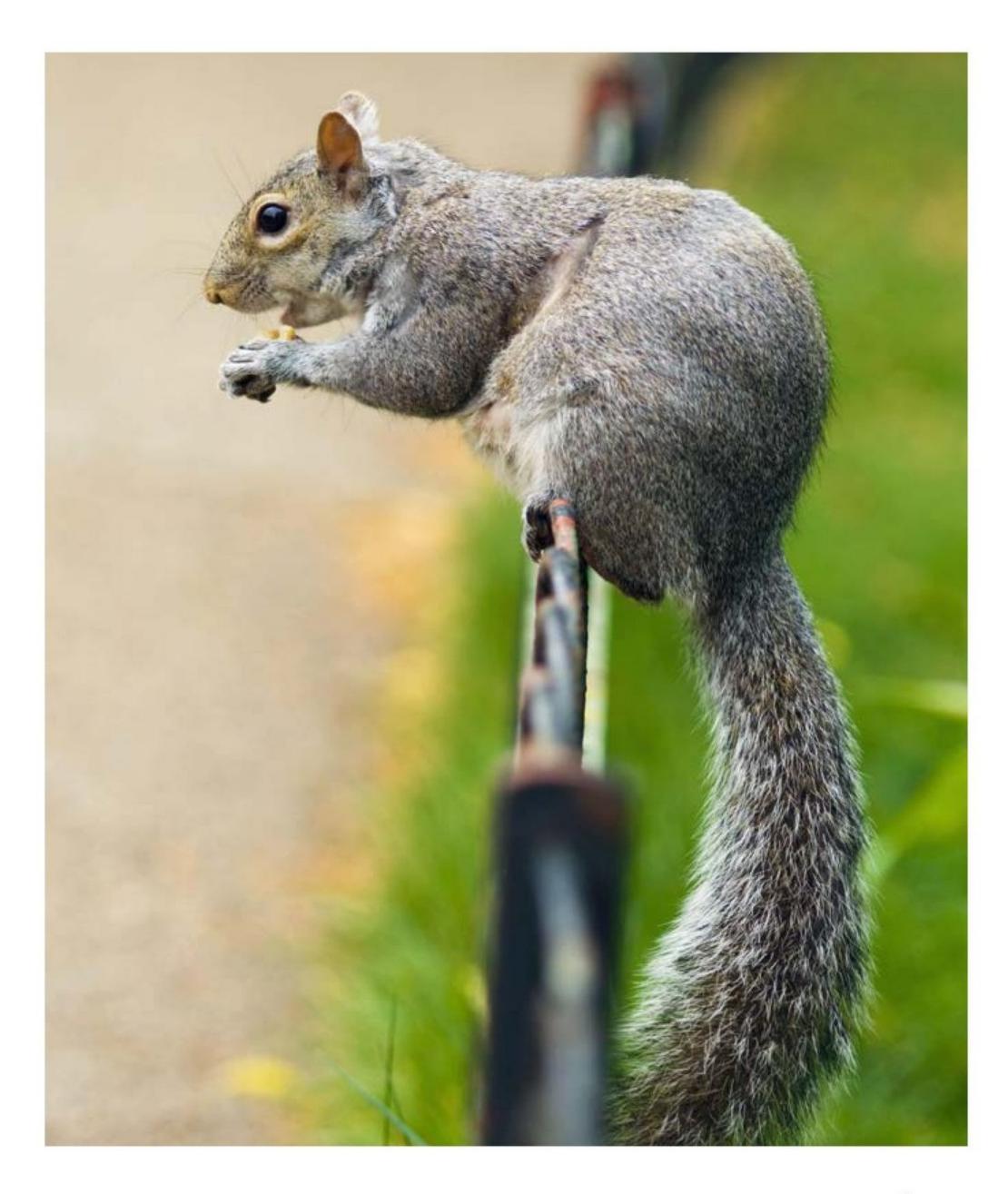
They can climb and change direction quickly. They can change direction to escape from birds or other squirrels.





They can leap easily from large branches to small ones.

They land easily on small branches by using their tails. They use their tails to keep their balance and not fall off.







Small branches or wires are like tightropes that they easily run across.



They can hang from the bottoms of branches. They can even climb upside down!



Squirrel acrobats can quickly and easily climb, leap, and run!

Squirrel Acrobats

A Reading A-Z Level G Leveled Book Word Count: 167



Connections

Writing

Write a poem describing how a gray squirrel moves.

Share your poem with the class.

Science

Where do gray squirrels live?

Draw a picture of their habitat.

Describe your picture to a partner.



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