

# Pred

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### **Table of Contents**

Animal Group	3
Family	4
Habitat	5
A Squirrel's Body	6
What do they eat?	8
Predators	0



I just read a story about

**SQUIRRELS** 

HERE IS I THING I LEARNED

# SQUIRRELS



By Megan Mitchell

Read each adaptation. Explain how it helps a squirrel.

	· ·
A squirrel has a cache.	A squirrel lives in a burrow.
A squirrel has sharp	A squirrel has a
claws.	big bushy tail.



quirrel











ishy tail







## VB&WFORSTUD



By Megan M



#### **Animal Group**

Squirrels are rodents that are members of the mammal group. They are warm-blooded, born alive, have a backbone, have fur, and drink their mother's milk

#### **Family**

The squirrel family includes 300 hundred species such as gray squirrels, ground squirrels, chipmunks, groundhogs, prairie dogs, and tree squirrels. There are more than 100 species of tree squirrels.

#### Habitat

Squirrels are one of the most common wild animals. They live on every continent except Australia and Antarctica. They c live in prairies, woodlands, parks, and cities. Some live in burrows, or underground holes. Others make their home in trees.

Squirrels are small animals with big bushy tails. Their tails help them balance. They vary in length from 4in, to 3 ft. They have short fur that can be gray, black, brown, or red in color.

#### of Cant A Squirrel's E What Do They E

They have Squirrels eat nuts, plants, fruit, and 4 larg tree bark and seeds. Some eat grow cont insects and bird eggs too. They Their ears bury nuts in their ground cache and they I and stash them in their burrows. claws for This allows them to have food to eat during the cold months.

#### Animal Group **Predators**

Squirrels have predators from above. Hawks, owls, and eagles are always looking for a squirrel meal. On the ground, foxes, lynx, weasels, wolves, coyotes and snakes also hunt for

#### E-mail. Squirrel Babies

Squirrels usually have a litter of 1 to 6 🗸 In the wild, squirrels can babies at a time. They are called kits or pups. They are born hairless, and their eyes and ears are sealed shut. They stay in the nest or hole with their mother for about three months.

#### Habitat Fun Facts

live up to 14 years. They carefully gather and store food in a hole called a cache. (1) born-alive, warm-blooded, backbone You should never touch a squirrel because they carry many harmful parasites.

### A Squirrel's Body Glossary

A Squirrel's Body

burrow: a hole or tunnel dug cache: store away and hide for late kits: a baby squirrel mammal: an animal with fur or hair, and drink their mother's milk. parasite: a living thing that can cause sickne predator: an animal that preys on others pup: a baby squirrel rodent: a gnawing mammal

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## COLOR VERSION FOR TEACHERS PRINT OR PROJECT

## **SQUIRREL**



### Table of Contents

imal Group	3	104
mily	4	
ıbitat	5	
Squirrel's Body	6	
nat do they eat?	8	
edators	9	
uirrel Babies	10	
n Facts	11	THE PARTY OF THE P
ossary	12	*27

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#### A Squirrel's Body

Squirrels are small animals with big bushy tails. Their tails help them balance. They vary in length from 4in, to 3 ft. They have short fur

that can be gray, black, brown, or red in color. They have two big eyes and 4 large teeth that grow continuously. Their ears are upright, and they have sharp claws for climbing trees.



#### What do they Eat?

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