

# Mammals of the Rouge



ROUGE VALLEY CONSERVATION CENTRE  
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There are many mammals in the Rouge, some you may have never heard of or ever seen. Mammals are all around you when you go outside for a hike. Look closely and see if you can spot them. Use this sheet to help you learn where you can find your favourite mammals. When you are finished, try to find them in the word search attached.



## Beaver

Beavers can be found in areas with water such as lakes, wetlands or rivers, where they are able to engineer dams to make deep ponds. They build lodges to live in using logs, mud, wood chips, and stones. Beavers eat bark, especially that of aspen, willow, and maple. They also eat aquatic plants.

**Fun Fact:** Beavers sometimes slap their large flat tail against the water to serve as a warning signal.



## Chipmunk

Chipmunks live in wooded or bushy areas, but can often be found in urban and suburban areas too. They eat seeds, nuts, and fruits, and supplement with insects. Chipmunks transport food in their large cheek pouches and store it away for the winter.

**Fun Fact:** Chipmunks have three types of calls: trilling, chucking, and chipping.



## Coyote

Coyotes can be found in a variety of habitats including forests, grasslands, agricultural areas, and are tolerant to areas with humans. They mainly eat small mammals like rabbits, squirrels, and mice, but may eat birds or reptiles.

**Fun Fact:** Coyotes are good swimmers but are not very good climbers



## Deer Mouse

Most commonly found in woodlands, prairies, and suburban areas. They are omnivores, eating both plants or animals, like seeds, flowers, and insects.

**Fun Fact:** Deer mice help spread the seeds and spores of many plants and fungi.



## Groundhog

Typically live in forests, fields, and pastures where they can construct dens. They eat plants like dandelions and clovers, as well as bark, insects, and bird eggs.

**Fun Fact:** February 2nd is "Groundhog Day" in the United States and Canada.



## Little Brown Bat

Bats are seen flying through the skies at dusk and after dark, but they roost in buildings, trees, and caves. These bats feed on swarms of insects by catching them while flying. They feed mostly on moths, midges, mayflies, and occasionally mosquitoes.

**Fun Fact:** Bats can pinpoint their prey by using echolocation – emitting a high-pitched frequency that bounces off of an insect and comes back to the bat so they can detect exactly where it is.



### **Meadow Vole**

Voles live in grassy areas like fields and marshes, where they can tunnel and nest. They mostly eat grasses and plants, but in the winter they may eat insects or roots.  
**Fun Fact:** Voles are an important food source to numerous animals, including owls, snakes, foxes, bears, and wolves.



### **Muskrat**

Musk rats are found in wet areas like marshes, ponds, and lakes. They tunnel into the banks to make a burrow, and form nests by piling vegetation. They eat aquatic plants and roots, and can swim under ice to get plants.  
**Fun Fact:** Muskrats can hold their breath under water for up to 15 minutes.



### **Raccoon**

Raccoons are very adaptable, and are often found close to humans. They also live in woodlands and farmlands. Raccoons are opportunistic feeders, and will eat anything they can find: plants, nuts, berries, insects, rodents, fish, eggs and more.  
**Fun Fact:** Raccoons are quite intelligent, and are often seen washing their food.



### **Red Fox**

The red fox has a wide range of habitats, but prefer edge habitats or mixed vegetation areas. They mostly eat small mammals, but are omnivores, and will also eat insects, fruit, and carrion (dead animals).  
**Fun Fact:** Red foxes have 28 different vocalizations and even individual voices.



### **Shrew**

Populations are usually found in damp, bushy areas. They eat mainly invertebrates like snails and beetles, as well as small vertebrates, plants, and seeds.  
**Fun Fact:** Some shrews are venomous which allows them to eat larger animals like salamanders, frogs, snakes and others.



### **Squirrel**

Squirrels live in wooded areas like forests, especially those with trees that produce nuts for storing, like oaks and walnuts. Squirrels feed on the nuts, flowers, or buds of oaks, hickory, pecan, and beech trees. They also eat the seeds of cedar, hemlock, and pine, as well as crops like corn and wheat.  
**Fun Fact:** Squirrels communicate through vocalizations and tail flicking.



### **Star Nosed Mole**

This interesting looking critter prefers areas with wet soil, like marshes and the banks of streams and ponds. While they primarily eat earthworms, they also hunt for aquatic prey such as leeches, caddisflies, dragonflies, and diving beetles.  
**Fun Fact:** The "star" nose of this mole is made of 22 very sensitive pink tentacles which allows them to feel their way underground, since they have poor eyesight.



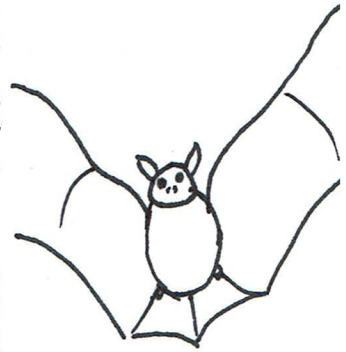
### **White Tailed Deer**

Deer are found in woodlands, farmlands, and bushy areas so that they can hide and also have plenty to eat. They eat plants, buds, twigs, and berries when available.  
**Fun Fact:** When mothers are out looking for food, fawns (baby deer) will lay flat on the ground with their necks stretched out to camouflage against the forest floor.



## Mammal Word Search

S Z X O K L C M A O M S U R R  
T B S D D O Q R U E F F K E K  
A L X U Y M A U A S T R E D N  
R J Z O O R W D L R K D I F U  
N O T Y G M O E U V D R J O M  
O E K D S W R A R E S W A X P  
S X R D V R J E L H B F Y T I  
E I M O I L V I E U S X D N H  
D B L U N G A H L D M K C L C  
M E Q G V T G O H D N U O R G  
O S S E E Q R A C C O O N C C  
L I T T L E B R O W N B A T Z  
E S I R E R E V A E B H F E X  
U H D L F U N D R Z P N D C Z  
W K Q H J M S J K U T N P P R



beaver

muskrat

squirrel

chipmunk

raccoon

star nosed mole

coyote

red fox

white tailed deer

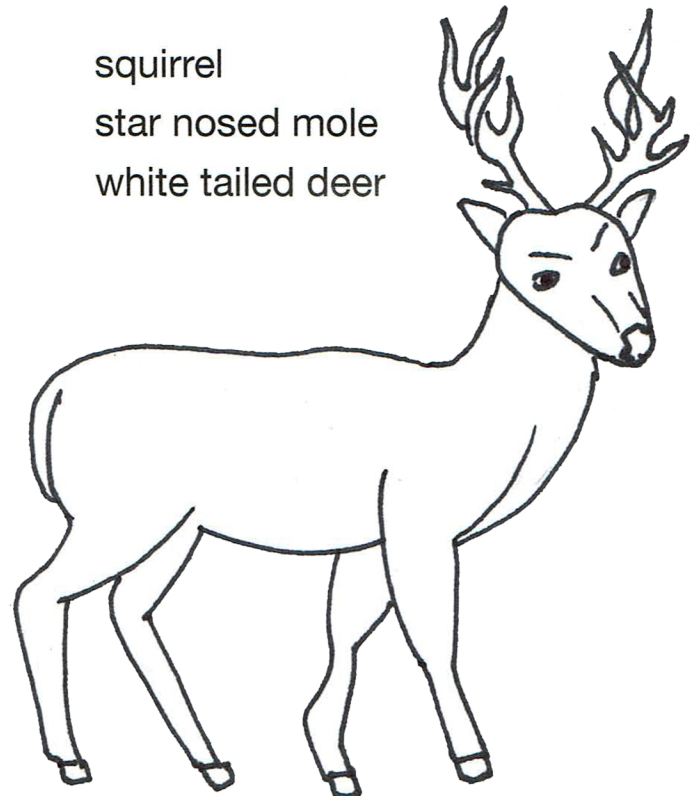
deer mouse

shrew

groundhog

little brown bat

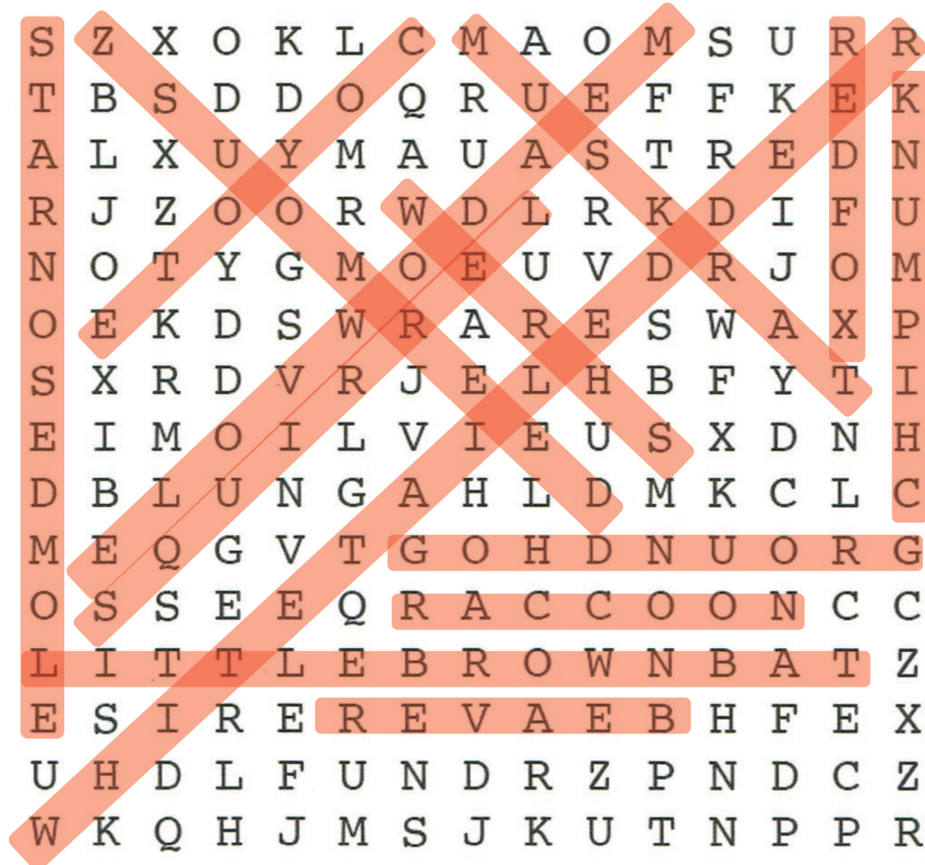
meadow vole







## Mammal Word Search Answers



beaver

chipmunk

coyote

deer mouse

groundhog

little brown bat

meadow vole

muskrat

raccoon

red fox

shrew

squirrel

star nosed mole

white tailed deer