

LOCAL MAMMAL SURVEY

Date			
Location			
Description of the environment (weather, time of day, etc.)			
Name of Mammal	# of Mammals	Signs of Mammal (tracks, scat, shelter, etc)	Description of its Appearance/Behavior





Mammal Jeopardy

General Mammal Facts

\$200

Name four mammals you might find at Wave Hill
Answer: Coyotes, squirrels, raccoons, opossum, feral cats, humans, skunks

General Mammal Facts

\$400

What are two common characteristics of mammals?
Answer: Hair/fur, outside ears, warm blooded, feeding milk to its young

General Mammal Facts

\$800

Over time, a species of mammal may _____ to become better suited to their environment.
Answer: Adapt

General Mammal Facts

\$1,000

Give an example of a mammal that is an urban avoider, and urban adapter and an urban exploiter.
Answer:
Avoiders: Coyotes, bears
Adapters: Raccoons, opossums
Exploiters: Rats, mice

General Mammal Facts

\$600

What are three signs that mammals leave behind that help us learn more about them?
Answer: Tracks, shelters, unfinished food, scat



Mammal Jeopardy

Food

\$600

These winged urban avoiders can eat up to 600 insects an hour.

Answer: Bats

Food

\$800

This mammal has very long and sharp canine teeth on the sides of its mouth. What does this tell us about the type of food the mammal eats?

Answer: Carnivore (eats meat)

Food

\$1,000

New York's second largest mammal hibernates for up to five months. When they wake up, these opportunistic omnivores will eat plants, berries, small animals, fish and even human food.

Answer: Black bear

Food

\$200

Mischievous raccoons can break into the most secure garbage cans when searching for food. This is an example of an urban _____.

Answer: Adapter

Food

\$400

This mammal helps keep NYC's deer population in check.

Answer: Coyotes



Mammal Jeopardy

Shelter

\$200

A mammal's home or environment is called a _____.

Answer: Habitat

Shelter

\$400

Where would you expect a chipmunk to make its home?

- A. A nest high up on a tree branch
- B. A burrow behind a tree stump
- C. A den abandoned by another mammal

Answer: B

Shelter

\$600

These mammals can make two types of shelters, a nest of leaves high up on a tree branch or in a hole in a tree.

Answer: Squirrel

Shelter

\$800

There are over 10,000 feral cats in NYC. These decedents of lost or abandoned house cats have learned to survive in the harsh conditions of the city. This is an example of an urban _____.

Answer: Adapter

Shelter

\$1,000

These mammals birth and raise their young in discrete locations like sports arena parking lots and airport construction sites.

Answer: Coyotes



Mammal Jeopardy

Movement & Behavior

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This mammal relies on street trees to move around NYC.

Answer: Squirrel

Movement & Behavior

\$400

Raccoons are mostly active at nighttime. This means they are _____.

Answer: Nocturnal

Movement & Behavior

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What is one challenge that nocturnal mammals in NYC might face?

Answer: Noise, light pollution

Movement & Behavior

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These small mammals are known for “playing dead” by flopping on the ground with their eyes closed when threatened by predators.

Answer: Opossum

Movement & Behavior

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Where in NYC are you most likely to spot a coyote? Why?

- D. Times Square
- E. Central Park
- F. Van Cortlandt Park
- G. City Island

Answer: C. Coyotes prefer secluded wooded areas away from high traffic areas.



Mammal Jeopardy

Mammals, Humans & Memes

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"Pizza Rat," the viral meme of a resourceful rat dragging a slice of pizza through a NYC subway is an example of an urban _____.

Answer: Exploiter

Mammals, Humans & Memes

\$400

This animal causes 65,000 car accidents in NYC each year.

Answer: Deer

Mammals, Humans & Memes

\$600

This marine mammal was once very common in NYC, but overhunting and pollution drew populations away. Today, as their numbers continue to rise, they can be seen basking in the sun on rocks and dock in NYC harbors.

Answer: Seals

Mammals, Humans & Memes

\$800

In 2014, there were 3,188 reported injuries related to bites from a common NYC mammal. Who was responsible?

- H. Cats
- I. Coyotes
- J. Dogs
- K. Raccoons

Answer: B. Coyotes are often thought to be a great danger to us but it is very rare for them to approach a human, and there were only 367 reported incidents in the United States in 40 years.

Mammals, Humans & Memes

\$1,000

From roaming around Wall Street to swimming in people's pools, this bold urban animal is taking over NYC. There are about 100 of these curious mammals per square mile in the city and their numbers are rising.

Answer: Raccoons