Marvelous Mammals

Marvelous Mammals

Coloring & Activity Book



**Porcupine** (*Erethizon dorsatum*). Separate family of rodents. About 30 inches long. Black; quins on rump and tail. Nocturnal forest dweller through most of Alaska and Canada and western third of U.S.



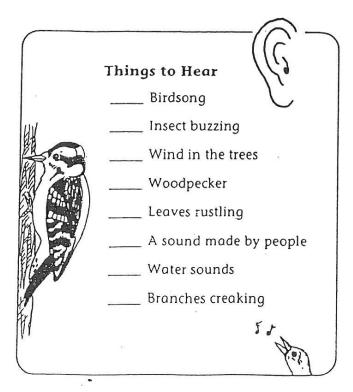
**Badger** (*Taxidea taxus*). Carnivore of the weasel family. About 30 inches long. Yellow-gray with white stripe, white cheeks, black feet. Active chiefly at night in prairies and deserts in U.S. Midwest and West, parts of southwest Canada, northern Mexico.



**Raccoon** (*Procyon lotor*). About 40 inches long. Grizzled body; white and black tail rings; black "mask." Lives near water in wooded regions over most of U.S., southern areas of Canada, Mexico.



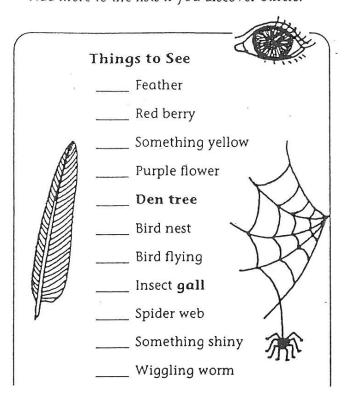
Red Fox (Vulpes fulva). About 40 inches long. Reddish yellow; white belly and tail tip; black legs. Inhabits forests and open country through most of North America north of Mexico.





Take a sensory walk on a hiking or nature trail. Using your newly sharpened senses, search for the items below. Check the things you see, hear, touch, and smell. Remember, do not eat any part of a wild plant.

Add more to the lists if you discover others.



	Things to Feel
	Wet mud
	Wind on your face
$\wedge$	Rain drops
VO	Something bendable
OV	Something sharp
	Something sticky
	Last year's leaves
	Rock in the shade
	Rock in the sun
	Moss on a tree
	MRR



Gray Fox (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*). About 45 inches long. Grizzled body, black stripe down tail. Nocturnal hunter in open forests and shrubby regions through most of U.S. (not in northwest quadrant) and Mexico.



Snowshoe Hare (Lepus americanus). Rabbits, hares and pikas form an order of mammals of their own. The snowshoe hare is about 18 inches long. Dark brown in summer, white in winter. Nocturnal in swamps and forests through most of Alaska and Canada, and in adjacent parts of U.S. (Northeast, Northwest and Great Lakes).



Eastern Cottontail (Sylvilagus floridanus). About 17 inches long. Brownish or grayish with white tail. Brushy areas or open forest through most of U.S. (not in northern New England or Far West) and parts of Mexico.



River Otter (Lutra canadensis). Carnivore of the weasel family. About 45 inches long. Dark brown. Webbed feet. Lives near water through most of North America north of Mexico.





**Beaver** (*Castor canadensis*). Beavers form their own family of rodents. About 40 inches long. Dark brown; paddle-shaped hairless tail. Builds dams in streams or houses in lakes. Mainly nocturnal. Found just about everywhere in North America north of Mexico.



Striped Skunk (Mephitis mephitis). About 25 inches long. Black with white stripes. Habits and habitats similar to those of spotted skunk, but ranges all over U.S. and southern Canada.



**Bobcat** (*Lynx rufus*). Carnivore of the cat family. About 35 inches long. Brownish with black spots and stripes; tail has black tip. Shrubby areas (West) or swamps and forests (East). Nocturnal. Mexico, most of U.S. (not in parts of South and Midwest), southern edge of Canada.

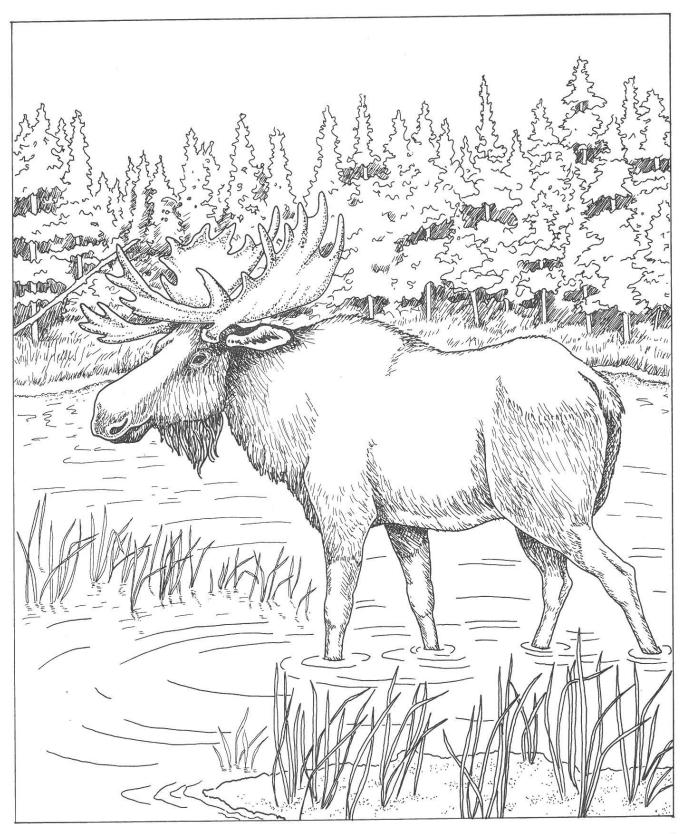


Coyote (Canis latrans). Carnivore; dog family. About 50 inches long. Gray; legs and ears rust-colored. Mainly nocturnal in open country in Alaska, western and southern Canada, Mexico, and most of U.S. (not in Southeast).

## Wisconsin Mammals

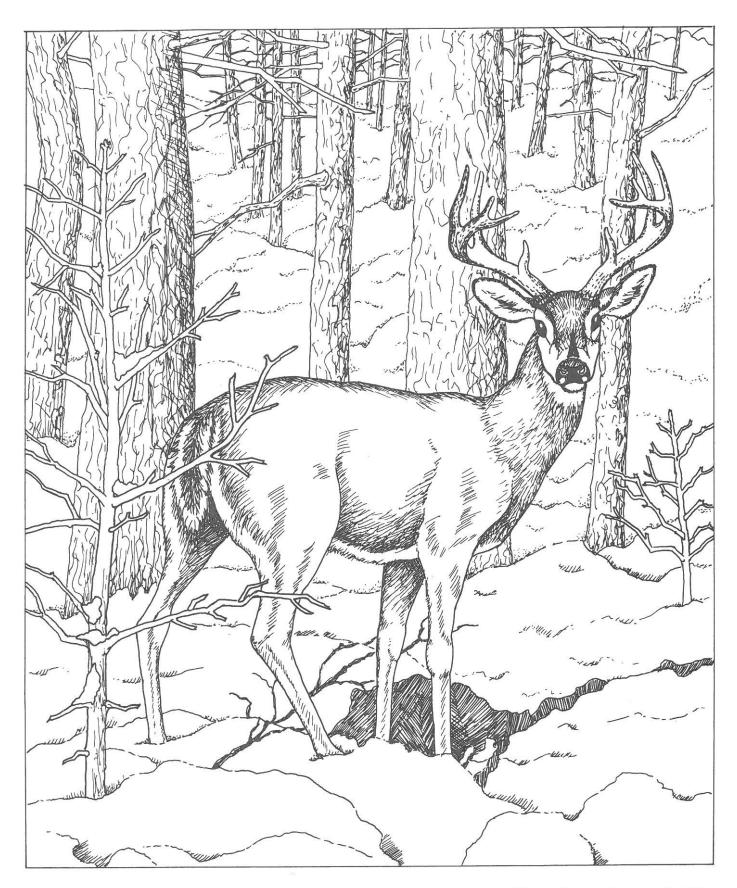
E	F	R	M	Y	М	Q	0	M	0	В	Q	В	S	R	M	K	U	L	Y	BADGER
S	S N	L	M	N	M	Y	Ρ	Ρ	Ι	S	Α	Χ	K	Ε	L	L	M	Ε	В	BEAVER
Ε	'N	Ι	0	R	U	Ρ	Χ	G	0	D	С	U	U	Ε	Ι	G	Q	R	М	BOBCAT
C	Z	Χ	Р	W	Α	Y	N	В	G	S	N	Χ	N	D	М	Χ	Α	R	U	COYOTE
F	R V	J	Ε	U	М	Т	Т	Ε	Y	W	S	U	K	F	Ε	М	С	Ι	S	DEER
P	S	F	D	S	С	N	R	N	Ε	J	R	U	Q	Α	G	L	Т	U	K	ELK
Ε	3 L	L	N	Ρ	Ι	R	N	Т	J	С	Y	Ε	М	R	В	V	R	Q	R	FISHER
>	L	Т	Т	С	Μ	0	0	G	Ε	0	М	M	V	0	S	S	U	S	A	GRAYFOX
Ε	3 V	A	U	J	Α	Y	J	Ρ	М	0	Т	G	R	Α	Y	F	0	Χ	Т	MINK
Ε	' U	С	W	М	0	F	Ι	S	Η	Ε	R	Т	M	В	Ε	M	U	R	M	MOOSE
P	V W	В	0	С	Χ	D	Q	Χ	Р	Α	М	G	Ε	Ε	Μ	В	R	J	Z	MUSKRAT
2	T	0	N	Т	N	Y	Χ	0	F	D	Ε	R	Т	R	Т	0	U	Н	N	OPOSSUM
Z	S	В	Q	Z	Α	K	Т	Ι	В	В	М	Н	С	Ρ	Α	Н	K	0	U	OTTER
E	0	M	L	S	Y	L	Q	R	Q	V	K	С	Т	Т	Н	R	0	K	R	PORCUPINE
5	S W	Р	Y	0	Ρ	M	Α	F	G	K	D	M	Т	Т	Z	С	В	D	А	RACCOON
P	Ι	F	F	Q	K	М	Y	Т	Ι	М	F	Q	Y	Z	С	Т	В	V	Z	REDFOX
Ε	B P	Ε	K	N	С	D	N	V	R	Ε	Ε	N	R	Α	K	N	Ι	М	С	SKUNK
Γ	' Z	В	Χ	W	N	Y	Y	U	U	L	Т	R	R	K	U	М	0	V	0	SQUIRREL
Ι	) Z	Р	J	Т	L	Р	0	Χ	Т	R	N	М	S	Т	Т	U	D	S	0	WOLF
F	R Z	Y	M	D	M	M	I	Ζ	Τ	Α	Q	В	Χ	Z	В	G	Z	U	J	

19 of 19 words were placed into the puzzle.



42. The largest member of the deer family, the moose (*Alces alces*) can weigh more than 1000 pounds. It is 7 to 10 feet long and stands 5 to 6½ feet high at the shoulder. Once nearly vanished from the United States, it can now be seen in the boreal forests of New England, the Great Lakes area, the northern Rockies, and Canada. It has a dark brown or reddish-brown coat with lighter legs and underparts. Males shed their

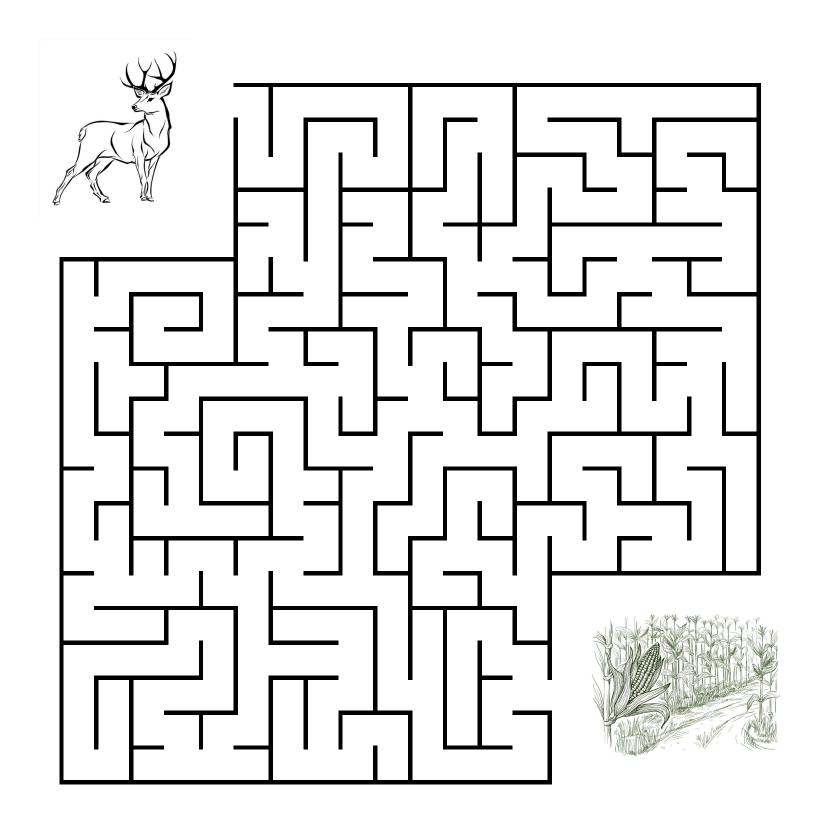
massive, flattened, pronged antlers in the winter and grow them anew in spring. During the fall mating season, the males become restless and aggressive, and will fight one another. Calves (often twins) are born in the spring, and remain hidden and inactive for several days. Moose eat many kinds of vegetation including aquatic plants in the summer; woody plants, twigs, bark, and saplings in winter.

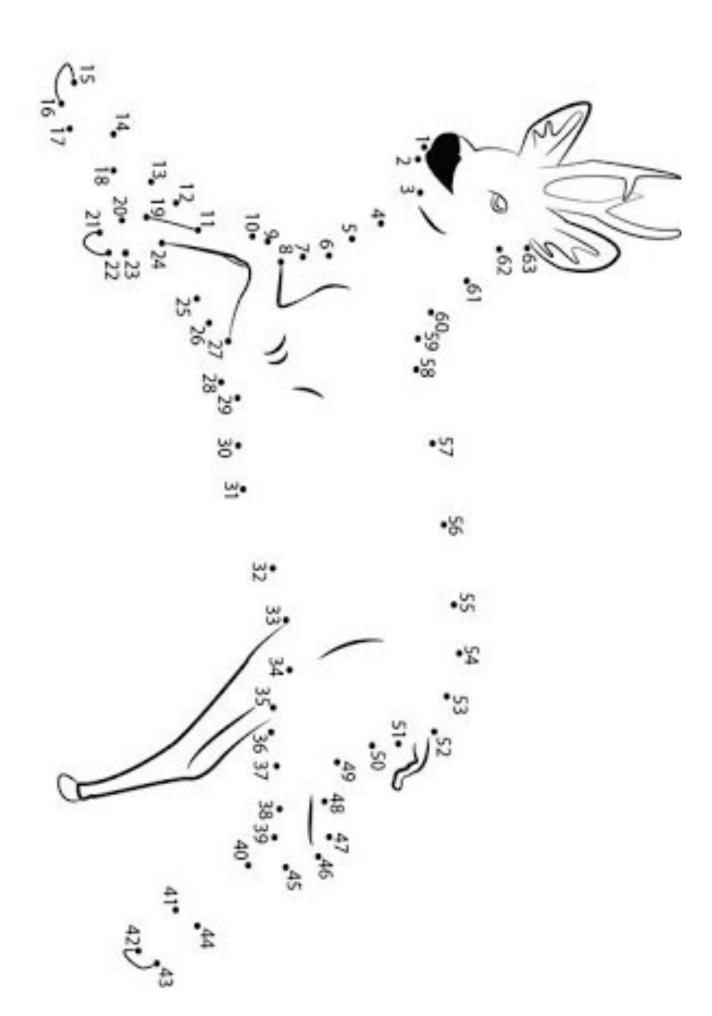


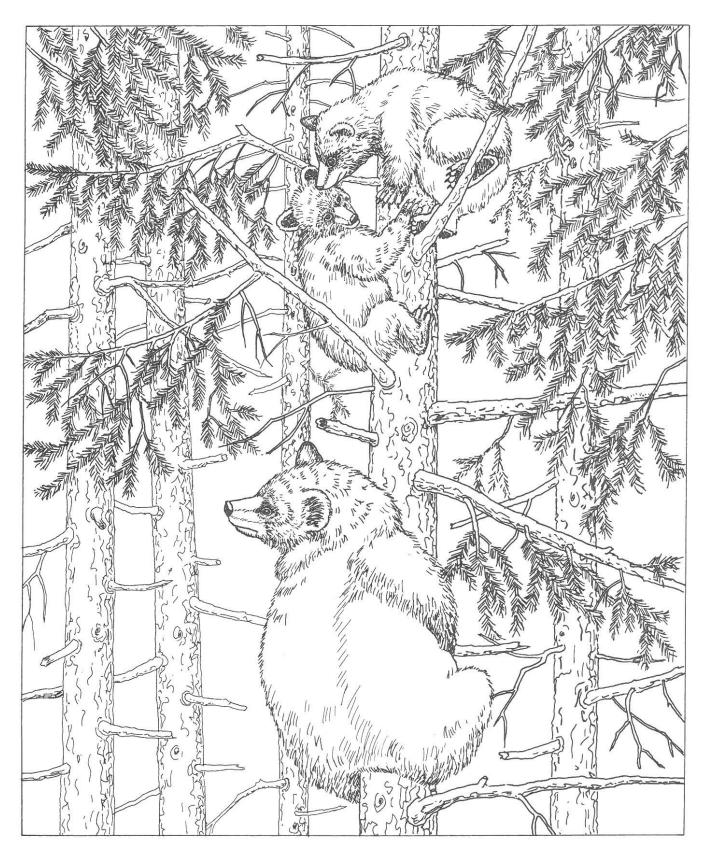
40. The white-tailed deer (Odocoileus virginianus), found in all forest types throughout the United States and lower Canada, is the one of the most abundant wild hoofed mammals in North America. It stands about three feet tall at the shoulder and has a grayish-brown coat in the winter and a tan or reddish-brown

coat in the summer. When alarmed, it raises its tail, showing the white underside. Male deer begin growing their antlers several months after birth and shed them each winter. The white-tailed deer browses on twigs, shrubs, fungi, acorns, grass, and herbs. It is most often seen in the early morning and or at dusk.

## Search for Food

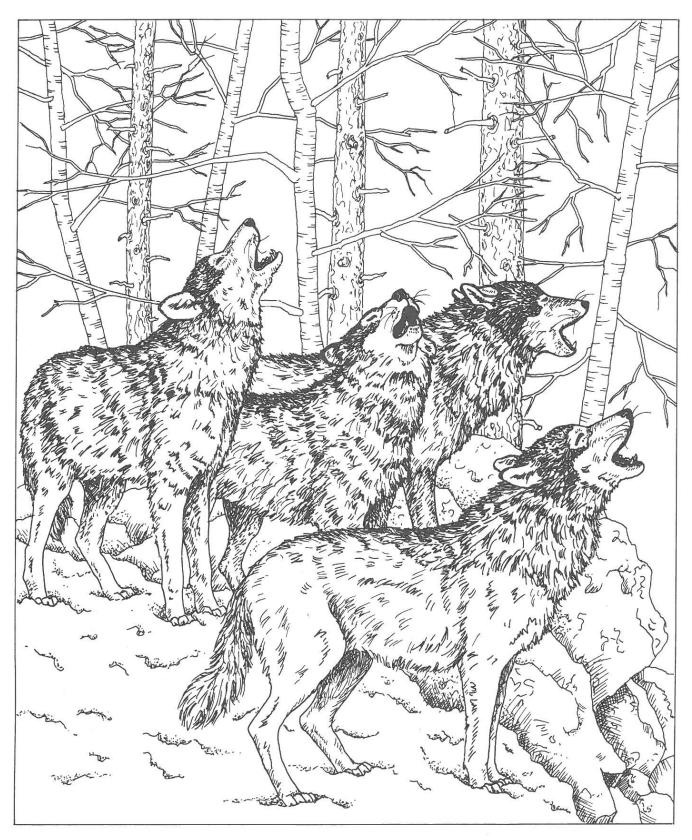






**41.** The **black bear** (*Ursus americanus*), is widely distributed in the boreal forests of Canada, and in transition forests in the United States as far south as Florida. Adults are  $4^1/2$  to 6 feet long, stand 2 to 3 feet high at the shoulder, and weigh between 200 to over 475 pounds. The cubs are very small relative to their adult size. Black bears have a brown snout, and a small white breast spot is often present. They feed on animals

ranging from insects to large mammals, as well as on plant material, carrion, and garbage. The 50- to 80-foot-tall **red pine** or **Norway pine** (*Pinus resinosa*) can be found in transition forests in southern Canada, New England, around the Great Lakes, and along the Atlantic seaboard as far south as Pennsylvania. It has red-brown bark and 4"- to 6"-long needles bunched near the branch tips.



**39.** The **gray wolf** (*Canis lupus*), is now found primarily in the boreal forests of Canada and Alaska, although it has been reintroduced into the United States in recent years. Although usually gray, it can vary from nearly white to black. The wolf mates for life, and has a complex social organization and a rigid hierarchy. The pack, normally four to seven wolves, is ruled by a dominent (alpha) male. The pack will hunt

big game, primarily deer and caribou. When big game is scarce, wolves will feed on anything. The **paper birch** (*Betula papyrifera*) (the thinner tree in the drawing), has chalky white bark, peeling in thin strips. It grows 50 to 70 feet tall. The **jack pine** (*Pinus banksiana*) grows 30 to 70 feet tall and has scaly brown bark. Both are found in boreal and transition forests in Canada and the northern United States.



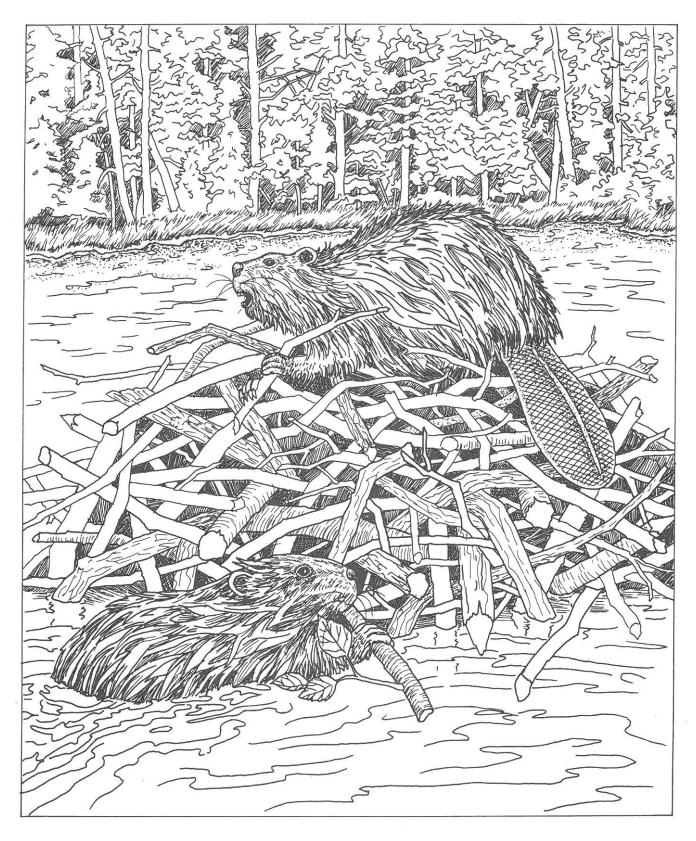
31. The eastern gray squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*) lives in the eastern United States in all forest types except the boreal, and is rarely found away from trees. It nests in holes in trees or builds a leaf nest in branches. This brownish-gray squirrel has a bushy gray tail bordered with white-tipped hairs. It eats berries, nuts, fungi,

and fruits, and acts as a reforestation agent by storing nuts and acorns singly in small holes in the ground; many of these are never recovered and grow to become trees. It is active all year long and generally has two litters of 3–5 young per year.



26. North American porcupine (Erethizon dorsatum) turns its back to its enemy, raises its long, stiff, barbed quills, and strikes out with its barbed tail. The quills are so loosely attached to the porcupine that they detach when they enter the attacker's skin. The grayish-brown nocturnal porcupine is most frequently seen in trees, although it is also a good swimmer. It can be found in boreal and transition forests in most of Canada, the

northeastern United States, and around the Great Lakes, as well as west of the Rocky Mountains. The widespread slippery elm or red elm (*Ulmus rubra*) grows in transition, mixed deciduous, and oak-hickory forests in most of the eastern United States, except for the extreme northern and southern portions. It is 60 to 70 feet high and has red-brown bark.



27. The beaver (Castor canadensis) can be seen in all forest types in the eastern United States and Canada except the subtropical. North America's largest rodent is famed for its dam building ability. A mated pair of beavers first build an underwater foundation of mud and stone, then gnaw down trees and drag or float the cuttings to the dam site where they are incorporated into the foundation. In the pond formed behind the dam, they build a stick-and-mud lodge with

underwater entrances. This lodge is occupied by family groups of parents, yearlings, and kits. The beaver is rich brown with a naked, scaly, black tail. Its preferred food is aspen, poplar, birch, maple, willow, and alder. In late summer and fall, it stores wood cuttings in an underwater food pile to be eaten in winter. The kits are born in spring and stay in the home pond until they are about two years old.