

Mammal Feature Hunt

Lesson 7.1 • What is a Mammal?
Outdoor Mission



Kitimu says...

You've learned what makes a mammal special — now go find the proof! Search for clues that mammals have been around: fur on a fence, tracks in the mud, a burrow by a wall. Test everything with your Mammal Checklist. Let's go, Cub!



WHAT YOU NEED



Garden or park



Magnifying glass



Notebook & pencil



Small sample bag



Your worksheet



Coloured pencils



YOUR MISSION

- 1 Make your Mammal Checklist.** Write the 4 mammal superpowers at the top of your page: **hair or fur • drinks milk as a baby • warm-blooded • breathes air**. You'll test every creature against this list!
- 2 Search for fur & hair.** Walk slowly along fences, hedges and low branches. Look for tufts of fur caught on wire, thorns or rough bark. Each tuft is proof a mammal passed by — pop it in your bag.
- 3 Hunt for tracks.** Check soft mud, sand or dust for footprints. Mammal tracks usually show toe pads and sometimes claws. Sketch what you find and guess the animal — cat, dog, mongoose, or something wild?
- 4 Look for other clues.** Spot burrow holes, scratch marks on trees, chewed plants or droppings (look — never touch!). Every sign tells you a mammal lives nearby.
- 5 Run the Mammal Test.** For every animal you meet — dog, bird, lizard, squirrel — check your 4 superpowers. Score 4 out of 4? It's a mammal! Fewer? It's something else.
- 6 Record your findings.** Draw or describe at least **3** pieces of mammal evidence below. Next to each, write which mammal you think left it — and why.

RANGER TIP

The best time to find tracks is early morning, before other footprints cover them. Mud near water is a track-finding goldmine!

STAY SAFE

Never touch droppings or dead animals. Turn things over with a stick, and always wash your hands when you get home.

My 3 pieces of mammal evidence (draw or describe):



Photograph your best mammal evidence and share it in the Junior Rangers WhatsApp group!