

Squirrel!



Animal Research Report by: _____

Animal Name: _____

This animal is a: Amphibian Bird Fish Insect Mammal Reptile

Here is a picture of my animal.

My animal's habitat is...

Animal Facts:

Height/Size: _____

Weight: _____

Color: _____

It has Fur/Feathers/Skin: _____

What it Eats: _____

Where it Lives: _____

Predators: _____

Lifespan: _____

Three Interesting Facts About My Animal:

1.	2.	3.
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Squirrel!



Mark where white and albino squirrels are found on the map below.
OR- mark where the squirrel you are researching is found in the US.



Squirrel!



Eastern Grey Squirrel Research and Habitat

Scientific Name: _____

Common Name: _____

Diet: _____

Habitat: (Don't forget to mark on the map where it's found!)

Anatomy/Appearance: _____

Life Cycle:

Behaviors:

Adaptations:

Predators:

Squirrel!



The Habitat of an Eastern Grey Squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*) Information

<https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/eastern-gray-squirrel>



Source – animaldiversity.ummz.umich.edu

HABITAT REQUIREMENTS

The gray squirrel thrives in both urban and rural settings. Of the seven species of squirrels native to North Carolina, the gray is the most common. Mast-bearing hardwood trees are the most important element of squirrel habitat. Mast is any hard fruit such as acorns, beechnuts, and hickory nuts. Other important tree and shrub species provide flowers, buds, fruit, cones and samaras (fruit of maple trees) in season.

HOME RANGE

The home range of gray squirrels varies from 1.5 to 8 acres and is usually smaller where populations are high. Populations develop social hierarchies or "pecking orders" influenced by age and sex of the animals. Dominant animals usually have larger home ranges.

WATER

While gray squirrels frequently use open water when available, daily needs can be satisfied from other sources such as dew and succulent plant material. Lack of surface water is not a limiting factor in squirrel habitat.

Squirrel!



FOOD

Squirrel populations fluctuate with changing yields of mast. When mast is not available, other fruits and berries, flower parts, buds, bark, roots, mushrooms, and animal matter comprise their diet. Variety in tree species is essential for habitat stability. Listed below are some of the most common food sources throughout the year. Cover Den trees are essential to squirrels for winter shelter, escape cover, and rearing of young. Natural den cavities begin to appear in 40-50 year old stands. Although leaf nests are also used, the survival rate of young is 40% lower in leaf nests compared to cavities. Frequently, squirrels will claim 2 or 3 dens at the same time. Moderate to dense ground cover near den trees is preferred for cover and concealment. On the average about half of the den cavities identifiable from the ground are suitable for raising young. Optimal habitat has 2 to 3 suitable cavities per acre.

SEASONAL FOODS OF GRAY SQUIRRELS				
	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
Acorns (Red Oaks)	X	-	X	X
Acorns (White Oaks)	-	-	X	X
Hickory & Beech	X	-	X	X
Walnut	-	-	X	X
Buds & Flowers	X	X	-	-
Berries	-	X	-	-
Fungi	X	X	X	-
Yellow Poplar Seeds	-	X	X	X



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