

MAMMALS ARE MARVELOUS

Dear Teachers,

When the Metroparks Mobile Learning Center visits your school, your students will have fun learning about all sorts of mammals that can be found in Michigan, and which ones are herbivores, carnivores or omnivores. Below is an outline of the activities your students will be engaged in during the "Mammals are Marvelous" program. A pre-visit activity is provided to prepare your students for the information we will cover.

School-visit Program Outline:

- Read a story Born Alive and Well by Ruth Heller
- Sing the mammal song
- Puppet show
- Raccoon lunch game
- Deer dress up and chewing demonstration
- Bring around fur and antlers
- Show fox skull and fur
- Bat dress up
- Show bat skeleton and mount
- Sing mammal song again

School-visit Song:

Mammal Song - David Stokes

Chorus:

It's got a hard backbone
Hair on its skin
Nurses from its mother
And it's warm within.

A bat is a mammal
But a snake is not
I can tell a mammal
By the kind of things it's got.

Chorus

I know a fox, lives in a glen
It plays in the woods, but it sleeps in a den
Little foxes are kits, some of them are red
They have bushy tails and pointed ears on their heads.

Chorus

Some deer have, a clean white tail
They lift it an run if there's something on their trail
Some have antlers, a big full rack
Little ones have white spots on their back.

Chorus

Am I A Mammal?

Explain to students that mammals are animals that have fur, make milk, have live babies (not eggs), and are always warm inside (warm-blooded). Show students the following pictures one at a time and ask if they think it is a mammal or not. This activity introduces some of the animals we will discuss during the program and key differences between mammals and other animals.

