



# Mammal Study

## Merit Badge Workbook

This workbook can help you but you still need to read the merit badge pamphlet (book). No one can add or subtract from the Boy Scout Requirements #33215. Merit Badge Workbooks and much more are below: [Online Resources](#).

Workbook developer: [craig@craiglincoln.com](mailto:craig@craiglincoln.com). Requirements revised: 1979, Workbook updated: April 2008.

Scout's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

Counselor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Counselor's Ph #: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Explain the meaning of "animal," \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

"invertebrate," \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

"vertebrate," \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

and "mammal." \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name three characteristics that distinguish mammals from all other animals.

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Explain how the animal kingdom is classified. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Explain where mammals fit in the classification of animals. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Classify three mammals from phylum through species.

Mammal 1 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Mammal 2 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Mammal 3 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. Do ONE of the following:

A. Spend 3 hours in each of two different kinds of natural habitats or at different elevation. List the different mammal species and individual members that you identified by sight or sign. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Tell why all mammals do not live in the same kind of habitat. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

B. Spend 3 hours on each of 5 days on at least a 25-acre area. List the mammal species you identified by sight or sign. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

C. From study and reading, write a simple history of one non-game mammal that lives in your area.

Non-game Animal: \_\_\_\_\_

Tell how this mammal lived before its habitat was affected in any way by man. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Tell how it reproduces, \_\_\_\_\_

what it eats, \_\_\_\_\_

what eats it, \_\_\_\_\_

and its natural habitat. \_\_\_\_\_

Describe its dependency upon plants, \_\_\_\_\_

upon other animals (including man), \_\_\_\_\_

and how they depend upon it. \_\_\_\_\_

Tell how it is helpful or harmful to man. \_\_\_\_\_

4. Do ONE of the following:

A. Under the guidance of a nature center or natural history museum, make two study skins of rats or mice.

Skin 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Skin 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Tell the uses of study skins \_\_\_\_\_

and mounted specimens respectively. \_\_\_\_\_

B. Take good pictures of two kinds of mammals in the wild. Record light conditions, film used, exposure, and other factors, including notes on the activities of the pictured animals.

Photo 1 Mammal: \_\_\_\_\_

Photo 2 Mammal: \_\_\_\_\_

Light conditions: \_\_\_\_\_

Light conditions: \_\_\_\_\_

Film Used: \_\_\_\_\_

Film Used: \_\_\_\_\_

Exposure: \_\_\_\_\_

Exposure: \_\_\_\_\_

Animal's Activities: \_\_\_\_\_

Animal's Activities: \_\_\_\_\_

Other factors: \_\_\_\_\_

Other factors: \_\_\_\_\_

C. Write a life history of a native game mammal that lives in your area, covering the points outlined in requirement 3C. List sources for this information

Native Game Animal: \_\_\_\_\_

Tell how this mammal lived before its habitat was affected in any way by man. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Tell how it reproduces, \_\_\_\_\_

what it eats, \_\_\_\_\_

what eats it, \_\_\_\_\_

and its natural habitat. \_\_\_\_\_

Describe its dependency upon plants, \_\_\_\_\_

upon other animals (including man), \_\_\_\_\_

and how they depend upon it. \_\_\_\_\_

Tell how it is helpful or harmful to man. \_\_\_\_\_

D. Make a bait and tracking pit. Report what mammals and other animals came to the bait.

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

E. Visit a natural history museum. Report on how specimens are prepared and cataloged. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Explain the purposes of museums. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

F. Write a report of 500 words on a book about a mammal species.

G. Trace two possible food chains of carnivorous mammals from soil through four stages to the mammal.

Possible food chain 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Soil: \_\_\_\_\_

Stage 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Stage 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Stage 3 \_\_\_\_\_

Stage 4 \_\_\_\_\_

Possible food chain 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Soil: \_\_\_\_\_

Stage 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Stage 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Stage 3 \_\_\_\_\_

Stage 4 \_\_\_\_\_

5. Work with your counselor, select and carry out one project that will influence the numbers of one or more mammals. \_\_\_\_\_

**Online Resources** *(Use any Internet resource with caution and only with your parent's or guardian's permission.)*

**Boy Scouts of America:** ▶ [scouting.org](http://scouting.org) ▶ [Guide to Safe Scouting](#) ▶ [Age-Appropriate Guidelines](#) ▶ [Safe Swim Defense](#)  
▶ [Scout](#) ▶ [Tenderfoot](#) ▶ [Second Class](#) ▶ [First Class](#) ▶ [Rank Videos](#) ▶ [Safety Afloat](#)

**Boy Scout Merit Badge Workbooks:** [usscouts.org](http://usscouts.org) -or- [meritbadge.org](http://meritbadge.org) **Merit Badge Books:** [www.scoutstuff.org](http://www.scoutstuff.org)  
▶ [Leave No Trace](#) ▶ [Outdoor Code](#) ▶ [Wilderness Use Policy](#) ▶ [Youth Protection Training](#)

**ExpertVillage.com Lesson Videos:** ▶ [Rabbits](#) ▶ [Rats](#) ▶ [Terrariums](#) ▶ [Mice](#)

American Museum of Natural History: <http://www.amnh.org>

American Zoo and Aquarium Association: <http://www.aza.org>

Bat Conservation International: <http://www.batcon.org>

Conservation and Resource Center: <http://www.si.edu/crc>

Discover Magazine: <http://www.discover.com>

National Audubon Society: <http://www.audubon.org>

Nat. Fish and Wildlife Foundation: <http://www.nfwf.org>

National Wildlife Federation: <http://www.nwf.org>

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service: <http://www.fws.gov>