

# Marvelous Mammals

Mammals are a group of animals that have some things in common. Mammals drink milk from their moms when they are babies, are warm-blooded, and breathe with lungs. Mammals also have hair or fur at some point in their lives. One unusually hairy mammal is the North American Porcupine!



**North American Porcupines** are the second largest rodent in California (after beavers) and are mostly herbivores (*plant eaters*). Porcupines can live in a variety of habitats, from desert shrubs to forests. They are great climbers and will try to escape danger by first going up a tree! But if that is not enough to be safe, they have an amazing **adaptation** of pointy quills on their bodies to protect themselves. Quills are special hard sharp hairs that grow along the porcupine's soft fur coat. Porcupines do not shoot these hairs, but if you touch them, the quills can get stuck in your skin and they are hard to get out- ouch!

**Draw your own porcupine (with quills!) in a forest habitat. Add the things it would need to survive in this habitat (*hint: food and a place to hide are two examples*).**

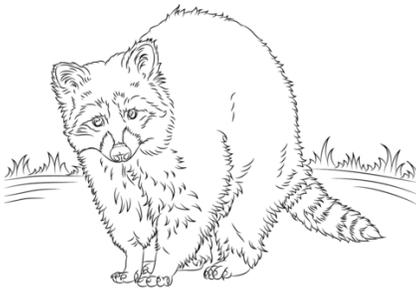


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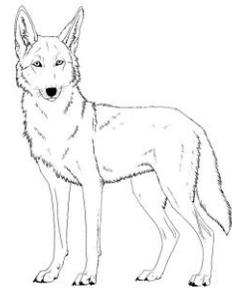
**Color only the animals below that are MAMMALS!**



**Raccoon**



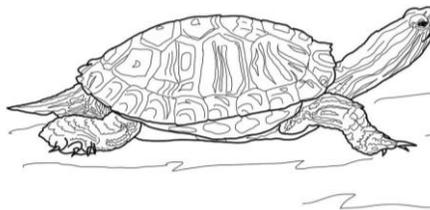
**Squirrel**



**Coyote**



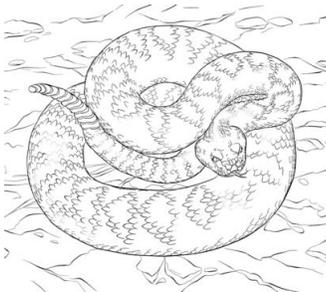
**Porcupine**



**Turtle**



**Beaver**



**Rattlesnake**



**Falcon**



**Bobcat**

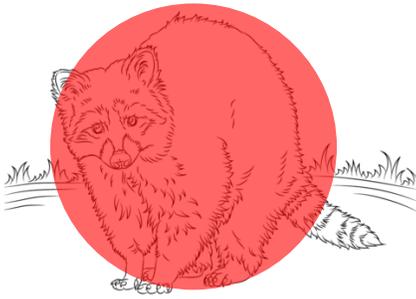


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# Marvelous Mammals ANSWERS

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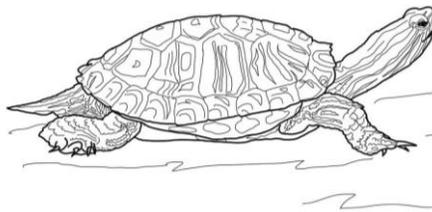
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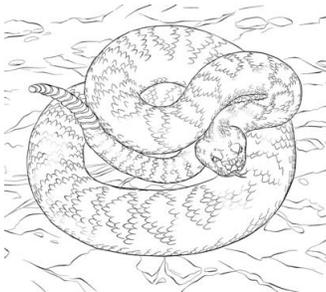
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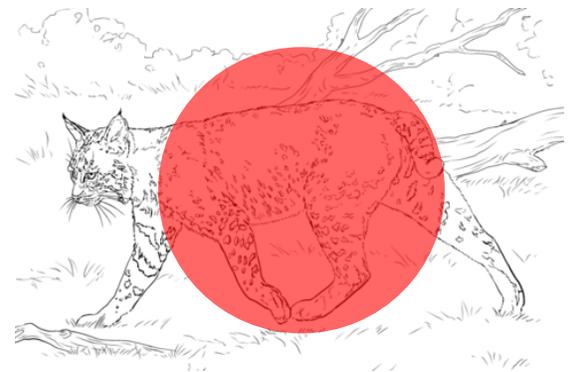
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