

## MAMMAL STUDY MERIT BADGE WORKBOOK

This Scoutmaster Bucky Merit Badge Workbook is based off the current *Scouts BSA Requirements*.

Consider also using the Mammal Study merit badge class preparation page for clarification and expectations when participating in a Scoutmaster Bucky merit badge opportunity ([online](#) or [in-person](#)).

<https://scoutmasterbucky.com/merit-badges/mammal-study/>

Scout's  
Name:

**REQUIREMENT 1:** Explain the meaning of "animal," "invertebrate," "vertebrate," and "mammal." Name three characteristics that distinguish mammals from all other animals.

Animal

Invertebrate

Vertebrate

Mammal

Three characteristics

**REQUIREMENT 2:** Explain how the animal kingdom is classified. Explain where mammals fit in the classification of animals. Classify three mammals from phylum through species.

How the animal kingdom is classified

First animal

Second animal

Third animal

**REQUIREMENT 3:** Do ONE of the following:

**REQUIREMENT 3 A:** Spend three hours in each of two different kinds of natural habitats or at different elevations for a total of 6 hours. List the different mammal species and how many of each you identified by sight or sign. Tell why all mammals do not live in the same kind of habitat.

**REQUIREMENT 3 B:** Spend three hours on each of five different days in at least a 25-acre area (about the size of 3 1/2 football fields) for a total of 15 hours. List the mammal species you identified by sight or sign.

**REQUIREMENT 3 C:** From study and reading, write a simple life history of one nongame mammal that lives in your area. Tell how this mammal lived before its habitat was affected in any way by humans. Tell how it reproduces, what it eats, and its natural habitat. Describe its dependency upon plants and other animals (including humans), and how they depend upon it. Describe how humans have benefited from the mammal you have chosen and whether the mammal has benefited from association with humankind.

**REQUIREMENT 4:** Do ONE of the following:

**REQUIREMENT 4 A:** Under the guidance of a nature center or natural history museum, make two study skins of rats or mice. Tell the uses of study skins and mounted specimens respectively.

First study skin

Second study skin

**REQUIREMENT 4 B:** Take good pictures of two kinds of mammals in the wild. Record the date(s), time of day, weather conditions, approximate distance from the animal, habitat conditions, and any other factors you feel may have influenced the animal's activity and behavior.

Taken pictures

**REQUIREMENT 4 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.

Completed

**REQUIREMENT 4 D:** Make and bait a tracking pit. Report what mammals and other animals came to the bait.

**REQUIREMENT 4 E:** Visit a natural history museum. Report on how specimens are prepared and cataloged. Explain the purposes of museums.

**REQUIREMENT 4 F:** Write a report of 500 words on a book about a mammal species.

Completed

**REQUIREMENT 4 G:** Trace two possible food chains of carnivorous mammals from soil through four stages to the mammal.

First food chain

Second food chain

**REQUIREMENT 5:** Working with your counselor, select and carry out one project that will influence the numbers of one or more mammals.

Completed