

What Mammal Am I?

Before the session, instructors will set up hides and available skulls as indicated below with numbered cards beside each hide (numbers 1-6).

There will be five mystery animals stations, the students should work on their own or in pairs and complete each station. There is one extra credit question (see answers below).

Before beginning the activity, instruct the students in the proper handling of the skulls and hides. Students should handle each sample very gently. Skulls are especially delicate and easily broken.

Answers Key: Mystery Mammals:

1. Coyote
2. Bobcat
3. Raccoon
4. Ringtail Cat
5. Beaver
6. Mountain Lion

Name: _____

Date: _____

Mystery Mammals

(Identify each animal and fill in the blanks below)

1. _____

2. _____

Examine the skull of Mystery Mammal #2. Why are this animal's teeth so pointy?

3. _____

Mystery Mammal #3 is sometimes mistaken for Mystery Mammal #4. Looking at both furs, list several ways you could tell these two species apart.

4. _____

Look closely at Mystery Mammal #4. Describe all the adaptations you see that make this animal a good predator.

5. _____

The fur of Mystery Mammal #5 does not have a tail because the tail cannot be preserved (it will rot). The tail of this animal is a large, paddle-shaped structure. For what activities do you think the tail is used?

Extra Credit:

6. _____

Name: _____

Date: _____

Mammal Vocabulary

Define the following terms:

Mammal:

Adaptation:

Herbivore:

Carnivore:

Omnivore:

Predator:

What is your favorite Arizona Mammal?

Why?