

## **Wisconsin Mammals Lesson Plan**

**Grades: 5 - 8**

**Length of Program: 30 minutes**

**Time of Year: Year round**

**Preferred Adult/ Student Ratio: 1/10**

### **Summary:**

Explore the exciting world of mammals as your class learns the identities of some Wisconsin native residents. Students will learn about these animals life histories, as well as how they are equipped to survive in a very competitive world. This program can be conducted at Horicon Marsh, or right in your own classroom.

### **Teacher Preparation:**

Review the definition of mammal

### **Academic Standards Addressed:**

Science

F.8.2 Show how organisms have adapted structures to match their functions

### **Special Instructions:**

None

### **Materials:**

- Mammal Pelts
- Rubber Mammal Tracks
- Mammal Skulls

### **Procedure:**

Either in classroom or on hike, arrange students in a semicircle facing you. If possible, have students sit down so all can see. Review the term adaptation. One at a time, hold up the pelts, having the students guess what mammal it comes from. Tell about the natural history and adaptations of each animal, passing around the pelt, track and skull if possible.

### **Wrap-up:**

Have the students name other mammals that can be found in Wisconsin. Ask them what people can do to help some mammal populations around their homes.