

Animal Homes Study

Illustrations by Amelia Ladd

Take a nature hike in your neighborhood/park and see how many animal homes you can find (Do not assume that all holes you find are active homes for animals.) Make a tally by each home that you see.

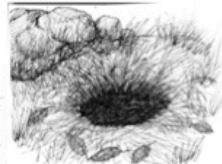
Holes in the ground



One inch hole
Mouse



1 ½ inch hole
chipmunk



3-5 inch hole
skunk



5-7 inch hole
Woodchuck
Dirt pushed outside of hole



9-12 inch hole
fox

Tree Nests – Hollows in trees

Most holes are made by woodpeckers, and are later taken over by other animals. Larger holes develop if a branch breaks off a tree.



Woodpecker/Chickadee
1-2 inch hole
If outside of hole is chewed to
enlarge hole – red squirrel



Squirrel
3 inch hole
Small owls and pileated
woodpeckers too.



Raccoon
6 inches or greater
In Fall or Spring may be
seen sleeping in the hollow
opening.



Hornet Nest
Do not disturb



Squirrel Dray
Made of leaves and
sticks.

Give yourself a point for taking a nature hike. Give yourself a point for each different type of home you find. _____

From *Nature Seeker Workbook*,
Lawrence Wade