

PHYSICAL APPEARANCE	CONSERVATION
all mammals have hair (at some point during their development)	least concern
lose hair	near threatened
insulation	vulnerable
sensory function	endangered
vibrissa /vaibrisə/	critically endangered
innervate	extinct in the wild
deffensive mechanism	extinct
provide protection	
vary in size	

Sources: Wund, M. and P. Myers. 2005. "Mammalia" (On-line), Animal Diversity Web. Accessed October 15, 2009 at <http://animaldiversity.ummz.umich.edu/site/accounts/information/Mammalia.html>, <http://dictionary.reference.com/>

LIFE DEVELOPMENT and REPRODUCTION	PARENTAL INVESTMENT
	juvenile
ontogeny	juvenile learning
viviparous	Mammalian behavior varies substantially among species.
oviparous	endotherm /'ɛn də,θɜ:m/ warm-blooded animal
placental mammals	endothermy
marsupials	endothermic
lay eggs	ectotherm /'ɛk tə,θɜ:m/ cold-blooded animal
give birth to live young (offspring)	ectothermic
short gestation period	
uterus	
nursing	
sexual dimorphism	
alike	
female large	
male more colorful	
polygynous = one male mates with multiple females	
promiscuous = both males and females have multiple mates in a given reproductive season	
monogamous	
provide care to their offspring	
often mating systems may vary within species	
display cooperative breeding	
share the care	
assist in the care of her offspring	
produce offspring	
a mating season	
intense male-male competition	
seasonal breeders	
eggs are fertilized	
copulation	
bout = obdóbí	
born in a relatively underdeveloped state	
reach maturity relatively quickly	
mortality	
average lifespan	
give birth to	
precocial /prɪ 'kooʃəl/ = (of an animal species) active and able to move freely from birth or hatching and requiring little parental care	
altricial young = helpless at birth or hatching and requiring parental care for a period of time	
invest energy	
highly developed offspring	
extended care	
estrus cycle = háráni	
hatch = to bring forth (young) from the egg.	
feed their newborn young with milk	
invest some or a great deal of care to their offspring	
be able to locomote on their own	
mammary gland	
lactation	

BEHAVIOUR/BEHAVIOR (AE)
locomotion
locomotion style
to locomote efficiently: fly, glide, swim, run, burrow, jump
ECOSYSTEM ROLES
disperses seeds
pollinates
creates habitat
biodegradation
soil aeration
keystone species = A keystone species is a species that plays a critical role in maintaining the structure of an ecological community and whose impact on the community is greater than would be expected based on its relative abundance or total biomass.
niche /nɪtʃ/
diurnal /daɪˈɜːnl/
nocturnal /nɒkˈtɜːnl/
crepuscular /krɪˈpʌs kyə lər/ = appearing or active in the twilight
arboreal = Referring to an animal that lives in trees; tree-climbing.
fossorial = Referring to a burrowing life-style or behavior, specialized for digging or burrowing.
solitary
territorial = defends an area within the home range, occupied by a single animals or group of animals of the same species and held through overt defense, display, or advertisement
social = associates with others of its species; forms social groups.
dominance hierarchies = ranking system or pecking order among members of a long-term social group, where dominance status affects access to resources or mates

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COMMUNICATION AND PERCEPTION
olfaction /ɒl'fækʃən, ʊəl-/ = the sense of smell
hearing
tactile perception
vision
night vision
sensory
sensory receptor
use pheromones
scent-marking is commonly used to communicate among mammals
well-developed hearing
echolocation
foraging /'fɔːrɪdʒɪŋ, 'fɔːr-/ = the acquisition of food by hunting, fishing, or the gathering of plant matter
navigation
many mammals are vocal
vocalizations are used in communication between potential mates
tactile sensation
predator /'prɛdətər; -,tɔːr/
any organism that exists by preying upon other organisms.
prey on
prey
prey of beast
Vocalizations can communicate individual or group identity, alarm at the presence of a predator, aggression in dominance interactions, territorial defense, and reproductive state.
Mammals also perceive their environment through tactile input to the hair and skin
Touch also serves many communication functions
social behavior
Specialized hairs (whiskers or "vibrissae") have a sensory function,
Vision is well-developed
well-developed eyes.
FOOD HABITS
carnivores
herbivores
omnivores
primary diet
folivore
frugivore
top predators
mammals are preyed upon by many other organisms
cope with predation through avoidance strategies
cryptic coloration
restricting foraging to times when predators may not be abundant
sociality
defensive chemicals
physical defense

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