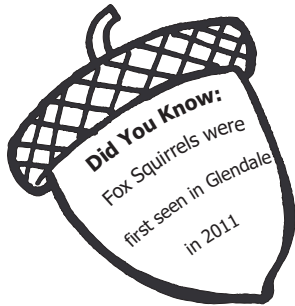
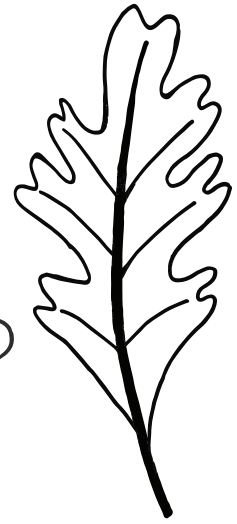




**NATURAL HISTORY
MUSEUM OF UTAH**
Rio Tinto Center | University of Utah

AMAZING TYERS Present



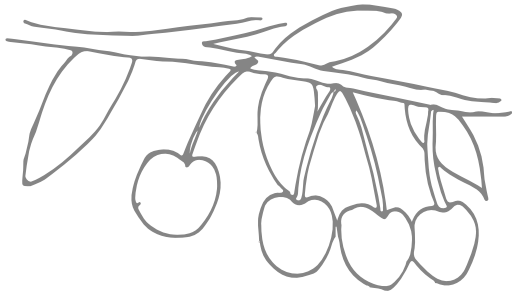
Going Nuts!



MADE BY:



So, what is a zine anyway? Zines are created as a DIY (do-it-yourself) magazine. You can write, color, and draw right in your zine! It's also made so you can add your own pages!



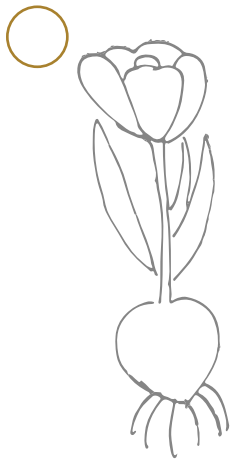
HOW TO MAKE YOUR ZINE

1. Find a rubber band and pencil. You could also use a stick from outside! Make sure the pages are together and the holes are lined up.
2. Put one end of the rubber band around one end of the pencil or stick. Thread the other end of the rubber band through one of the holes on the front.
3. From the back, thread the rubber band end through the other hole toward the front. Adjust the pencil (or stick) to make a nice bound edge for your zine.
4. Decorate the cover of your zine with crayons, markers, or pens!



What Squirrels Eat!

P F P S E H T Q I Z Y Y
 P T S U R I O Z I S D U B U
 K E X E K R C R U Q G M
 Q L C W N S L Y Q R L B
 D B A O B E T B E F F A
 P A Q L C C N C A S I N
 A T X F S H P Y E O F W
 Y E S E G E I D K S U P
 L G E Z G S N A J O N Y
 V E B W E T E C Q N G I
 F V Z W D N S O H X I F
 L X C R U E R O L E
 B L I T E N Z A
 O B S D S H
 D R S G



1. Draw 2 ovals. The larger oval will be the body, the smaller oval will be the head.



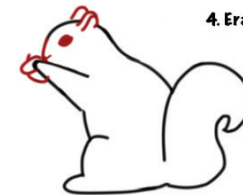
2. Connect the head and body with a small curved line. For arms, draw a triangle on the body.



3. Draw a tail -- it is like a thick fluffy letter S. The squirrel's leg looks like half of a top hat. His foot is like the lip of the hat.



4. Erase these extra lines



5. Add 2 small ears, an eye, a nose, and an acorn for the squirrel to eat.

Sketch-a-squirrel

PINESEEDS
 FLOWERS
 VEGETABLES
 BIRDEGGS

ACORNS
 BUDS
 FUNGI

HORSECHESTNUTS
 FRUIT
 INSECTS



Anyone can be a citizen scientist!

People just like you can help researchers collect data about the world around us. All you need to do is look closely and share what you find with others.

How do I know it's a Fox Squirrel?

SIZE: Adult Fox Squirrels are large. They can be 18 inches to 28 inches nose to tail!

COLOR: Do you see any orange? Their bellies and tails can be pale yellow to bright orange.

TAIL: Fox squirrels' tails are very bushy and almost as long as their bodies.

LOCATION: Fox squirrels don't hang out only in trees, but their adaptations help them get around in trees easily. When startled, a fox squirrel will usually try to escape by climbing.

Always be respectful of squirrels, people, and property.

You can watch for squirrels from a window inside your home, on a porch or balcony, or outside.

Observe a squirrel for a long enough time that you might see a number of different behaviors. 15-30 minutes is great!

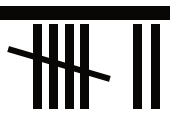

Seeing zero fox squirrels is helpful data also. If you search for fox squirrels for 15 minutes without finding one, you can record that you saw no squirrels.

Observation Tips

Recording Data - How to Tally

Tally marks are a way to keep track of data or scores. For example, you can use tally marks to keep track of the goals made in a game of soccer. In this activity, you'll use tally marks to count the number of squirrels you see doing different things!

Example

Squirrel Behavior	Tally Marks
Climbing	
Eating	

Now it's your turn to observe squirrels and record data!

Chasing other squirrels	Climbing a tree	Walking on a wire	Standing on the ground	eating
-------------------------	-----------------	-------------------	------------------------	--------

SQUIRREL FEST!

Fox squirrel!

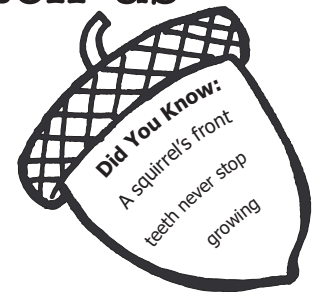


Squirrels seem to be everywhere, but our NHMU scientists can't be! You can help them collect data. Be a Citizen Scientist and contribute research about fox squirrels in Utah.

When: December 7th through 13th

Where: Your home, your yard, or your neighborhood

How: Go to our Fox Squirrel research webpage nhmu.utah.edu/programs/utah-fox-squirrels to tell us about your discoveries!



Interview with Eric Rickart

A Little about Eric:

I have been at the Museum longer than anyone else working there right now! I'm a curator – a title for a scientist who works in a museum and is in charge of collections. I am in charge of our Vertebrate Zoology collections, which means all animals with a backbone. I mostly study mammals and have been interested in them since I was young.

As a museum scientist, I get to do research with specimens at the Museum, and I also do research out in the field. I've studied small mammals as close by as Salt Lake City and as far away as the Philippines in Asia. I work on small mammals, mostly rodents, but I'm fascinated by all mammals - it would be wonderful to study whales someday. I love having a job that allows me to do a lot of my work outdoors.

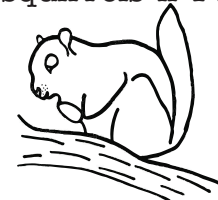


Where did fox squirrels come from and how did you learn about them?

Fox squirrels are not native to Utah – we call them an introduced species. They are native to the eastern half of North America and were first seen in the Glendale neighborhood less than 10 years ago. We want to learn more about how they are adapting to the conditions here and how they are fitting in to the urban ecology of the Salt Lake valley. I am excited about the opportunity fox squirrels offer for citizen scientists to get involved in collecting important data. I would only be able to count and observe a small number of fox squirrels if I had to do it on my own, but citizen scientists make it possible to gather much more information.

How did you learn that fox squirrels were in Utah and what makes Fox Squirrels unique?

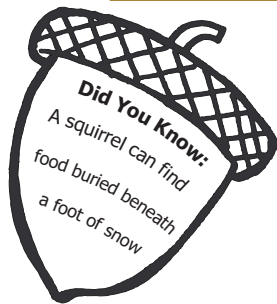
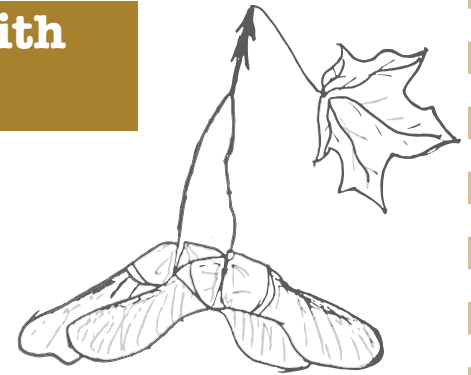
Several years ago, a friend of mine who is also a biologist called me and said, "Have you heard of fox squirrels in Utah? I think I see one in my backyard!" I was doubtful at first, but we observed carefully and determined it was really a fox squirrel. Now I see them in my own backyard. Data collected by citizen scientists has shown that the number of fox squirrels is increasing and they are spreading throughout much of the Salt Lake valley. Fox squirrels are great climbers and very acrobatic. Unlike most mammals they are only active during the day and are easily observed. They don't seem to be scared easily. They come quite close to you.



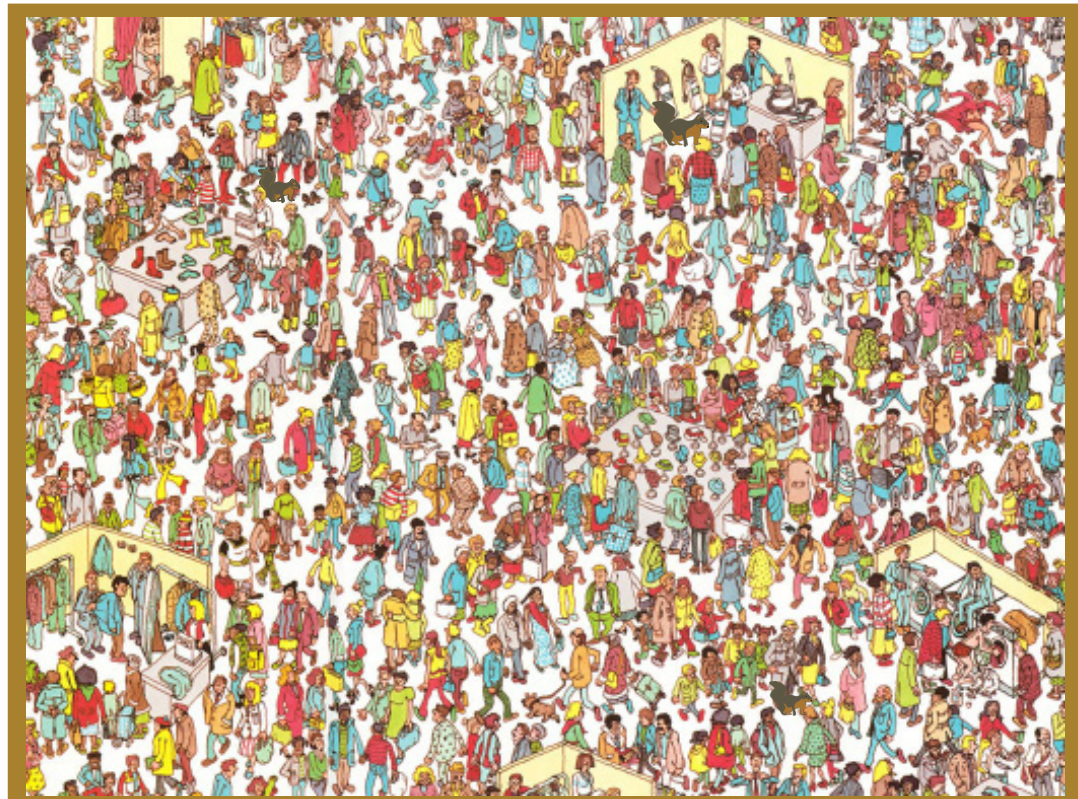
Where's Waldo Squirrel Edition

To avoid predators, squirrels sometimes blend in with their environments.

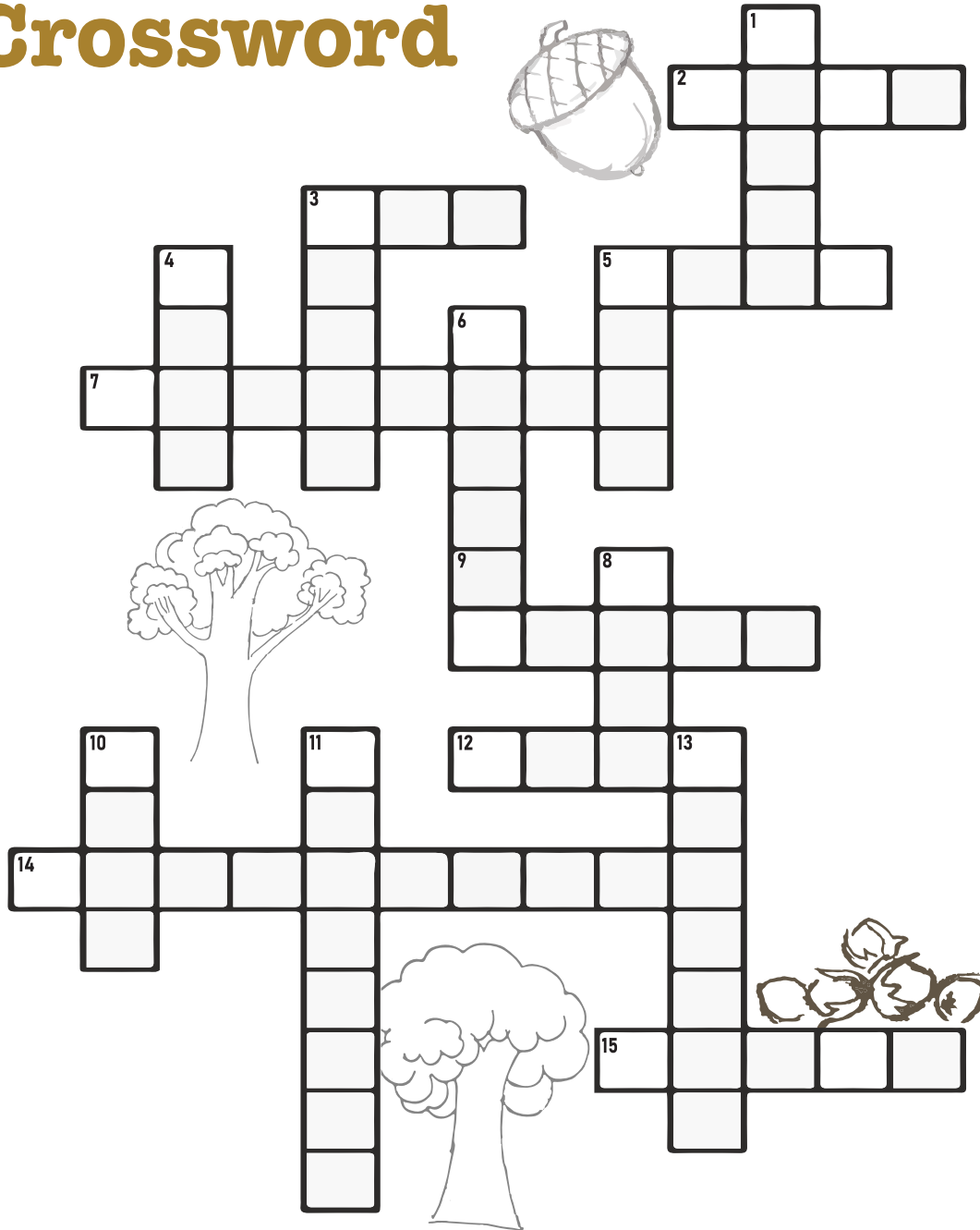
Find the squirrel camouflaging in the picture below



Now can you find the 3 squirrels camouflaging in this drawing?



Crossword



Down:

1. ____ is neither a plant nor an animal, mushrooms are a type of ____
3. The part of a plant that contains the seeds, its insides are usually sweet and juicy.
4. Squirrels love to ____ from tree to tree
5. A place that squirrels love to run up and hide
6. Small mammals with long, sharp front teeth that are used for gnawing
8. Squirrel homes that are built of twigs, dry leaves, and grass.
10. Squirrels eat nuts and seeds by biting in small parts
11. Rodents that have long bushy tails
13. A group of animals, plants or other living things that all share common characteristics

Across:

2. When you cover something in the ground with dirt
3. The soft, thick and hair of mammals
5. A long and thin part of an animals body that comes from the rear
7. When an animal eats both other animals and plants
9. Hard structures in the body that are used to chew food
12. A hard-shelled fruit of some plants, squirrels love to eat it
14. When an animal blends in with their surroundings so they are not seen by other animals
15. The part of a plant that can grow into a new plant, squirrels love to eat it

DIY SQUIRREL FEEDER

DIRECTIONS:



Squirrel Riddles and Jokes

I got thrown out of my local park after arranging the squirrels by height.
They didn't like me critter sizing.

What do you call a fight between squirrels?
A squarrel.

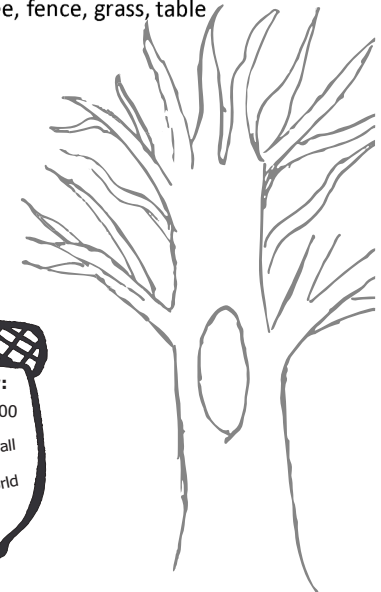
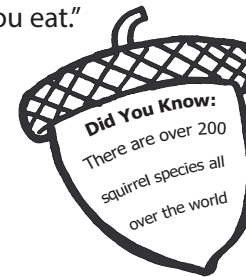
What's a squirrel's favorite way to watch TV?
Nut-flix.

Why did the squirrel get lost in the forest?
It followed the wrong root.



What did the squirrel say when he had to choose between staying still or jumping down?
"I'm really on the fence about this one."

A wise squirrel once said, "You are what you eat."
He was nuts.



Ingredients:

- 2 tablespoons peanut butter (creamy or crunchy)
- 2 tablespoons of uncooked oats (could be replaced with buck wheat or wheat berries)
- 2 tablespoons of any fine chopped nuts (walnuts, almonds, pumpkin seeds, hazelnuts, pecans, etc.)
- 1 tablespoon of yellow corn meal (can be replaced with corn grits, flax seeds, crushed/blended cheerios or corn flakes)
- You can always double the ingredients!

Directions:

In a small bowl microwave peanut butter for 20 seconds.

Add in oats, nuts and cornmeal and stir until well mixed.

Use a ¼ teaspoon (or any spoon) and scoop out mixture.

Place cookies on wax paper (not needed but is helpful so that the mixture won't stick) then let them cool.

Place in feeder or where they can be easily accessed by the squirrels (could be a tree branch or table)

Where to put the food:

Bird feeder, squirrel feeder, trees, bottom of tree, fence, grass, table

Squirrel Adaptations

Match the body parts of the squirrel with its adaptation!



1. Nose: Strong sense of smell to locate buried nuts

2. Mouth: Teeth constantly grow, and make loud sound to warn friends of enemies

3. Eyes: Allow the squirrel to see predators from a distance

4. Hands: Sharp, curved claws to climb and jump on or over things

5. Legs: Powerful muscles to grab onto surfaces well

6. Tail: Provides balance and temperature control for the squirrel

7. Ears: A sharp sense of hearing to hear threats and their environment

Squirrel Maze

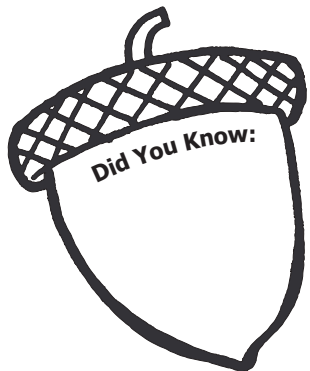
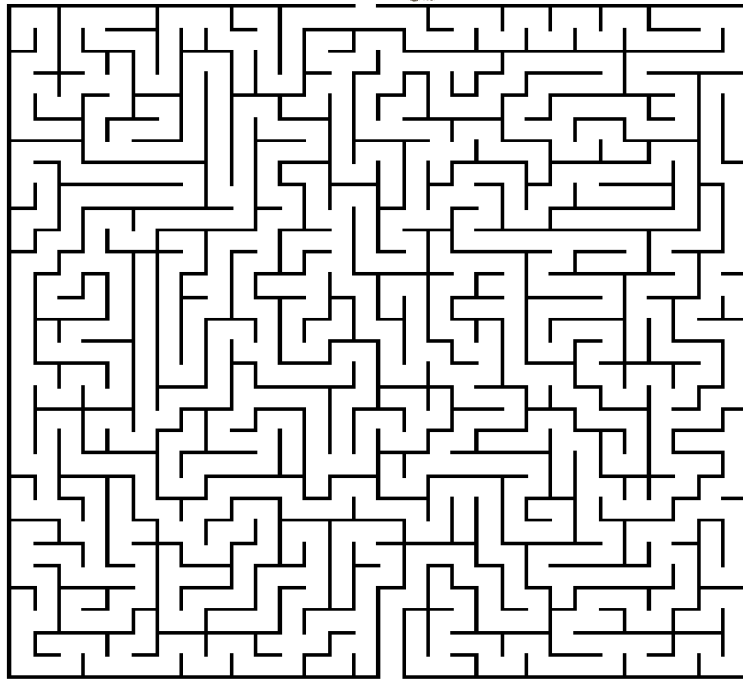
Youth
Teaching
Youth

This Zine is brought to you by

Youth Teaching Youth – or YTY – is a program at the
Natural History Museum of Utah

for Glendale Middle School students and high school students who are
interested in the natural world.

YTYers learn to think like scientists and help other people learn to think like
scientists too!



Write in your own
squirrel fact here!



Going Nuts! was created by:

Scarlett	Oswaldo
Diego	Kaylee
Guillermo	Leslie
Daniel	Kayleen
Luis	Taleigha
Keila	Shelali
Cynthia	Cameron
Christian	Mara
Kalee	Noah
Ivan	Melanie
Sydney	Irvin
Dayana	Lucia
Brissa	America
Dayanara	Brenna
Ariana	Gideon



**NATURAL HISTORY
MUSEUM OF UTAH**

Rio Tinto Center | University of Utah