Mammal Study

Merit Badge Workbook

This workbook can help you but you still need to read the merit badge pamphlet.

This Workbook can help you organize your thoughts as you prepare to meet with your merit badge counselor.
You still must satisfy your counselor that you can demonstrate each skill and have learned the information.
You should use the work space provided for each requirement to keep track of which requirements have been completed,
and to make notes for discussing the item with your counselor, not for providing full and complete answers.
If a requirement says that you must take an action using words such as "discuss", "show",
"tell", "explain", "demonstrate", "identify", etc, that is what you must do.

Merit Badge Counselors may not require the use of this or any similar workbooks.

No one may add or subtract from the official requirements found in Boy Scout Requirements (Pub. 33216 – SKU 637685).

The requirements were last issued or revised in 2015 • This workbook was updated in June 2017.

Scout's Name:_____ Unit: _____

Counselor's Name: _____ Counselor's Phone No.: _____

http://www.USScouts.Org • http://www.MeritBadge.Org

Please submit errors, omissions, comments or suggestions about this **workbook** to: Workbooks@USScouts.Org
Comments or suggestions for changes to the **requirements** for the **merit badge** should be sent to: Merit.Badge@Scouting.Org

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1. Explain the meaning of "animal," "invertebrate," "vertebrate," and "mammal."

Animal	
Invertebrate	
Vertebrate	
Mammal	

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Name three characteristics that distinguish mammals from all other animals.

1.

2.

3.

2. Explain how the animal kingdom is classified.

Explain where mammals fit in the classification of animals.

Classify three mammals from phylum through species.

Mammal			
Phylum:			
Class:			
Order:			
Family			
Genus			
Species			

3. Do ONE of the following:

☐ a. Spend 3 hours in each of two different kinds of natural habitats or at different elevation. List the different mammal species and individual members that you identified by sight or sign.

1.	2.

Tell why all mammals do not live in the same kind of habitat.

☐ b. Spend 3 hours on each of 5 days on at least a 25- acre area (about the size of 3 1/2 football fields). List the mammal species you identified by sight or sign.

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5

☐ c. From study and reading, write a simple life history of one non-game mammal that lives in your area.

Tell how this mammal lived before its habitat was affected in any way by humans.

Tell how it reproduces, what it eats, and its natural habitat.

Describe its dependency upon plants, upon other animals (including humans), and how they depend upon it.

Tell how it is helpful or harmful to humankind.

4. Do ONE of the following:

☐ a. Under the guidance of a nature center or natural history museum, make two study skins of rats or mice.

☐ Skin 1:

☐ Skin 2:

Tell the uses of study skins and mounted specimens respectively.

☐ b. Take good pictures of two kinds of mammals in the wild. Record the date(s), time of day, weather conditions, approximate distance from the animal, habitat conditions, and any other factors you feel may have influenced the animal's activity and behavior.

	Photo 1	Photo 2
Mammal:		
Date:		
Time of Day:		
Weather Conditions:		
Approx. Distance:		
Habitat Conditions:		
Other factors:		

☐ c. Write a life history of a native game mammal that lives in your area, covering the points outlined in requirement 3c. List sources for this information

Native Game Animal:_____

Tell how this mammal lived before its habitat was affected in any way by humans.

Tell how it reproduces, what it eats, and its natural habitat.

Describe its dependency upon plants, upon other animals (including humans), and how they depend upon it.

Tell how it is helpful or harmful to humankind.

Sources:

☐ d. Make a bait and tracking pit.

Report what mammals and other animals came to the bait.

☐ e. Visit a natural history museum.

Report on how specimens are prepared and cataloged.

Explain the purposes of museums.

☐ f. Write a report of 500 words on a book about a mammal species. (*Use a separate page.*)

☐ g. Trace two possible food chains of carnivorous mammals from soil through four stages to the mammal.

Possible food chain 1:	
Soil:	
Stage 1:	
Stage 2	
Stage 3	
Stage 4	

Possible food chain 2:	
Soil:	
Stage 1:	
Stage 2	
Stage 3	
Stage 4	

5. Working with your counselor, select and carry out one project that will influence the numbers of one or more mammals.

When working on merit badges, Scouts and Scouters should be aware of some vital information in the current edition of the *Guide to Advancement* (BSA publication 33088). Important excerpts from that publication can be downloaded from http://usscouts.org/advance/docs/GTA-Excerpts-meritbadges.pdf.
You can download a complete copy of the *Guide to Advancement* from http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33088.pdf.