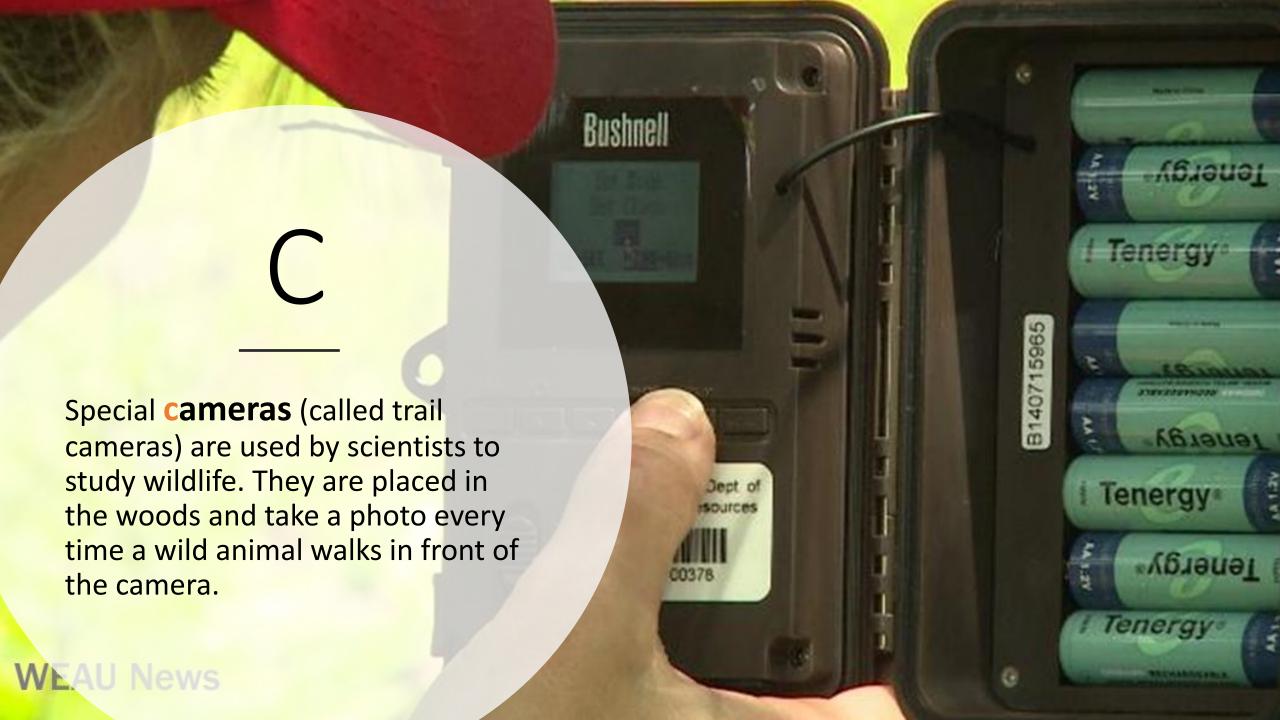


#### В

Badgers are Wisconsin's state animal. They are carnivores (meat eaters) that hunt during the night and stay hidden in underground dens during the day. This makes them hard to spot!







### E

Endangered species are living things that are at risk of extinction or dying out. They often require special protections so that their numbers can grow. The American marten (shown here) is an example of a species that is endangered in Wisconsin.

Source: http://eekwi.org/

Source: https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/endangeredresources

Photo: Wisconsin DNR



F

Fur helps animals to keep warm in winter. Other types of hair are protective (like the quills of a porcupine) or help animals feel their surroundings (like whiskers). Hair color can help camouflage animals by matching the environment they live in.



# G

The **gray fox** is the smallest canid (member of the dog family) found in Wisconsin. Gray foxes are easily identified by their gray coat and a dark stripe along their back, down to the tip of their tail. One thing that makes gray foxes extra special is their ability to climb trees.





**Hibernation** is one way that Wisconsin critters survive our cold and snowy winters. Hibernation is a deep, deep sleep. To prepare for hibernation animals must eat as much as possible. Because they will not be eating much during winter, they must put on lots of weight.



**Invasive** species are plants and animals that come to Wisconsin from different countries or habitats. These

species cause problems when they cause damage to animals or plants found here. For example, the Emerald ash borer is an invasive insect that is hurting Wisconsin's ash trees.

Source: http://eekwi.org/

Source: http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/foresthealth/emeraldashborer.html



The blue jay is easily identified by its bright blue color and the crest on top of its head. These birds are common throughout the year in Wisconsin. Small birds like the blue jay are rarely captured on trail cameras because they are too small to trigger the camera.

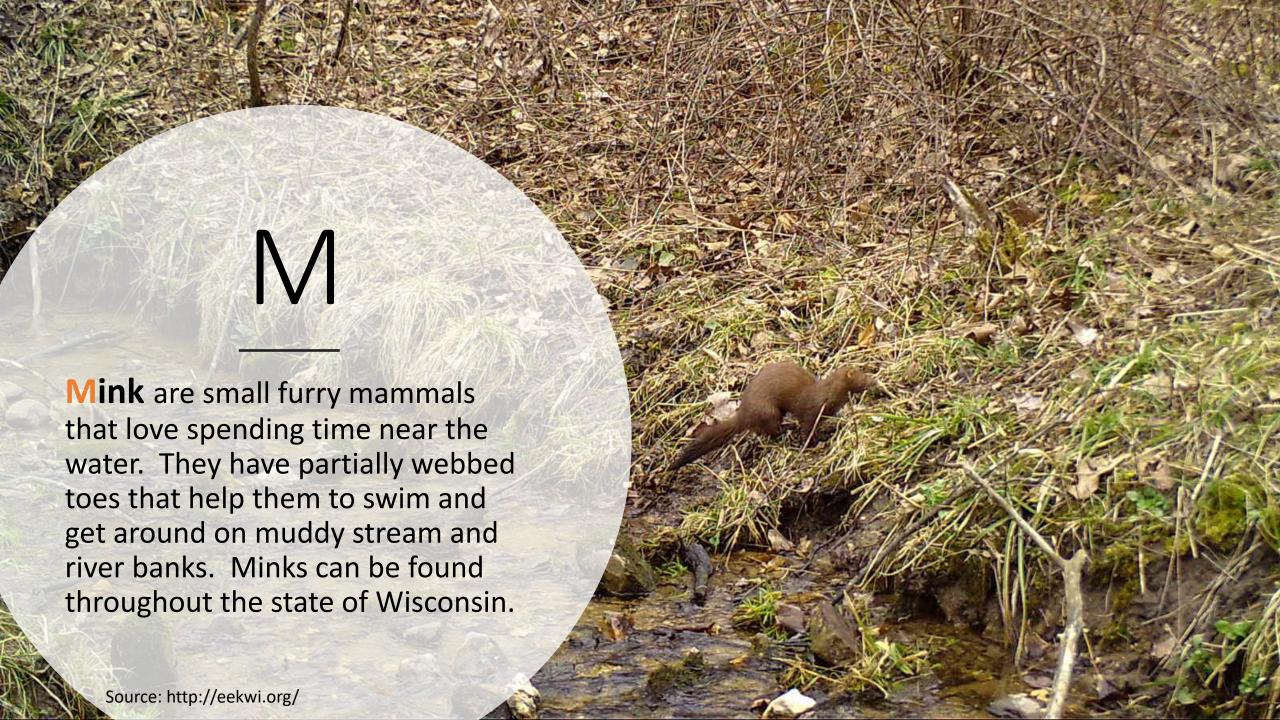


# K

Help to **keep wildlife** wild! Wild animals can be stressed by sights and sounds from people. If you see a wild animal, it is best to view them from a safe distance. Enjoy wildlife in their natural habitat by being quiet and still. Tell an adult if you see if an animal you think is hurt or orphaned.







### N

**Nocturnal** animals are those active mostly at night. Flying squirrels are an example of a nocturnal animal. They have large eyes that help them to see at night. They do not actually fly, but can glide from tree to tree using skin that extends from their wrist to their hind foot.



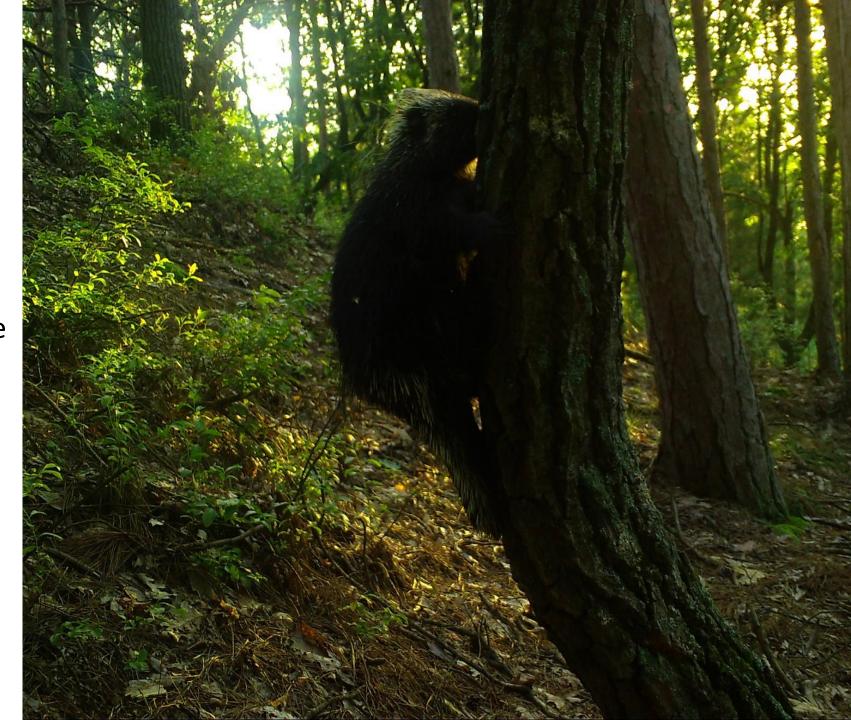
O

**Omnivores** are animals that eat both plants and animals. Omnivores include raccoons, opossums, and bears. You can tell what these animals have recently eaten by looking at their scat (poo). Some times it contains berry seeds and other times fur.



### P

A **porcupine** is a medium sized mammal that has sharp quills. Porcupines like to climb trees and sleep during the day.







# S

The **striped skunk** has distinctive black and white stripes telling you to keep your distance. To defend themselves, they can spray a stinky musk at predators as far as 15 feet away. The smell can carry for up to a mile! Watch out deer!



T

Turkeys are one of Wisconsin's most recognizable birds. Adult males have a "beard" growing just below their neck. These beards are actually a bristly mass of feathers.



### U

Urban areas (cities or towns) do not usually make good homes for wildlife. However a few species have learned to live around humans.

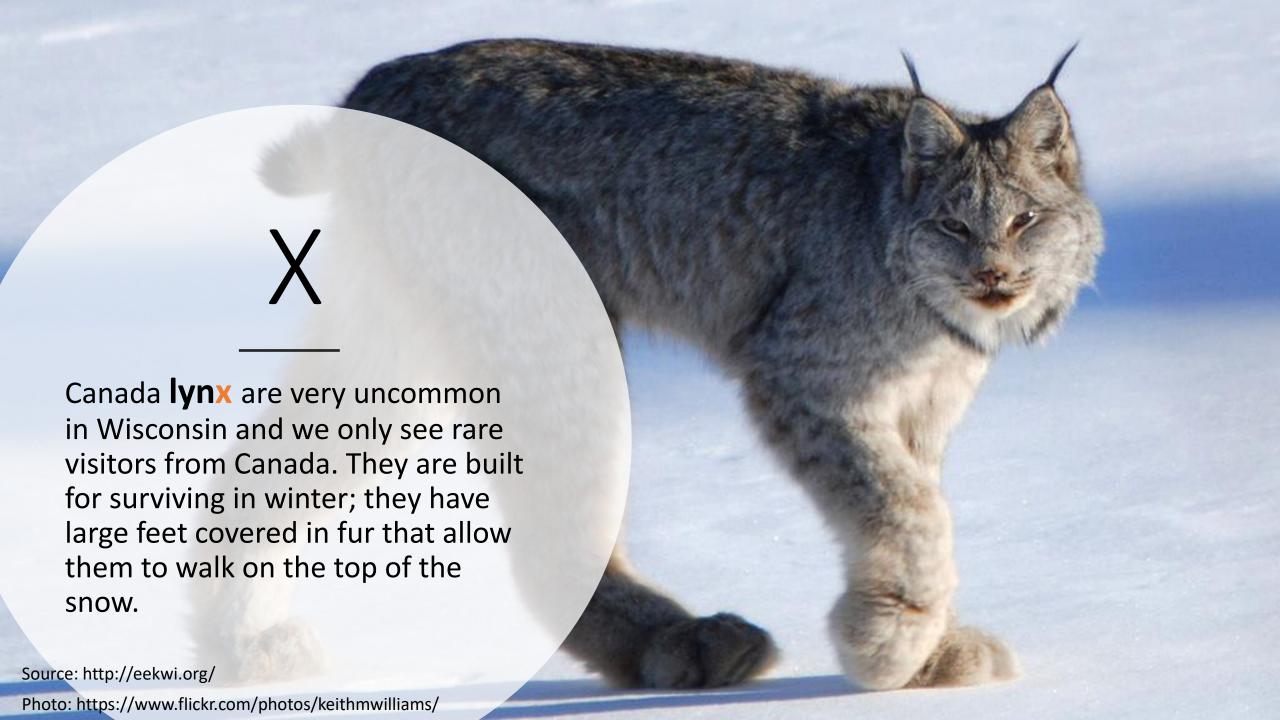


Source: http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wildlifeHabitat/urban.html

Photo: Dawn Howeth







Y

A **yearling** is an animal that is about one year old. Many young live with their parents until new young are born the next year. As they grow to adulthood, most young wildlife leave the area where they grew up to find a territory or home of their own.



Z

Zzzzzzz.....Like people, animals need their rest.
Occasionally we catch animals taking a nap in front the Snapshot
Wiscosin cameras, like the elk in this picture.

