## **Squirrels - The Furry Facts**



- Squirrels use their tails to keep them warm, but also to balance when running along tree branches.
- Unlike humans, squirrels have four fingers on each hand, and five toes on their feet.
- Squirrels make their nest high up in a tree, from twigs, leaves and moss. Their nest is called a drey.
- Squirrels shed their coats twice a year, once after winter time, and again in late summer before it gets cold again.
- Squirrels like to eat fruit, nuts, seeds, berries, flowers and shoots. Sometimes they store their food underground until they need it in winter time.
- Red and grey squirrels can be told apart by looking at their hair under a microscope.
- Baby squirrels are called kittens.
- There are two types of squirrel in the UK, red squirrels, and grey squirrels. The grey squirrels can give the reds a nasty disease called Squirrelpox.

Can you answer our Squirrel Quiz on the back?



## **Squirrel Quiz**



- 1. What do you call a squirrel's nest?
  - a. A bed
  - b. A den
  - c. A drey
- 2. What do squirrels hide underground for winter time?
  - a. Toys
  - b. Food
  - c. Money
- 3. What is the disease called that affects red squirrels?
  - a. Squirrel Flu
  - b. Squirrel Snot
  - c. Squirrelpox
- 4. Where are you most likely to find squirrels?
  - a. At the beach
  - b. In forests
  - c. On mountains
- 5. What do squirrels use to keep them warm?
  - a. Their tails
  - b. Hats and scarves
  - c. A blanket
- 6. What would squirrels most enjoy eating?
  - a. Nuts
  - b. Grass
  - c. Insects
- 7. How can you tell the real difference between a red and grey squirrel?
  - a. They make different noises
  - b. They smell different
  - c. By looking at their hair under a microscope

Now check your answers over the page