

# Tree Squirrel Guide

We have six different types of Tree Squirrels in Oregon. Two of the most common tree squirrels we see are the Eastern Gray Squirrels, and Fox Squirrels. These squirrels were introduced from the eastern parts of the United States and have created competition with the native squirrels. An introduced animal is an animal that has been brought to where they are by humans.

## Eastern Gray Squirrel

Scientific Name: *Sciurus carolinensis*

Introduced species

Appearance: Bushy tail with white hairs at the edge of tail. Gray or fawn body with a white belly.

Diet: Nuts, seeds, and acorns.



# Fox Squirrel

Scientific Name: *Sciurus niger*

Introduced Species

Appearance: Brown/grey body with an orange belly

Diet: Nuts, flowers, seeds.



These next four tree squirrels are native to Oregon. A native animal is an animal that lives in the same place they are originally from. This means that these animals evolved with the habitat around them, making them experts of their area.

## Western Gray Squirrel

Scientific name: *Sciurus griseus*

Native Species

Appearance: Silver or gray body, larger than eastern gray squirrels.

Diet: forest fruit, nuts, seeds



## Douglas Squirrel

Scientific Name: *Tamiasciurus douglasii*

Native Species

Appearance: Reddish gray/ brownish gray this color fades to chestnut brown middle of the back. They have small ear tufts in the winter.

Diet: Fir, pine, spruce, berries, mushrooms and hemlock cones and seeds.



# American Red Squirrel

Scientific Name: *Tamiasciurus hudsonicus*  
Native Species

Appearance: Dark red to grey body along with a cream-colored belly. The tail is banded with cream-colored tips.

Diet: Conifer seeds, flowers, berries, eggs, nestling birds, and insects.



# Northern Flying Squirrel

Scientific Name: *Glaucomys sabrinus*  
Native Species

Appearance: Light brown/cinnamon on the upper body, gray fur on the lower body. Flat tail. Skin folds extend from the front limbs to the back limbs.

Diet: Fungi and lichens, seeds, nuts, insects, bird eggs, nestlings, conifer cones.

