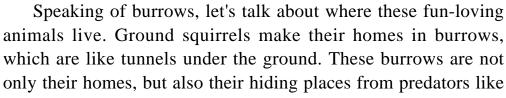


"Zip, zap, zoom!" Meet the ground squirrel, a feisty little creature that loves to dart around in the grasslands and forests. These cute critters are covered in fur that comes in shades of brown, grey, and sometimes black, which helps them blend into their surroundings. They are usually about 9 to 11 inches long, which is about the size of a big ruler, and they have bushy tails that add another 5 to 9 inches to their length. Ground squirrels have strong legs that are just perfect for digging burrows and running fast when they need to.





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Just like us, ground squirrels need food to stay healthy and active. They are omnivores, which means they eat both plants and small animals. Their diet includes nuts, seeds, fruits, vegetables, and sometimes insects and small birds. But did you know they hibernate in winter? They store food in their burrows to eat when they wake up in the spring.



Ground squirrels have a pretty cool life cycle and relationship with humans and other animals. Did you know that they hibernate in winter and wake up in spring? When they wake up, it's time to find a mate and have babies! While they might be a little naughty by digging holes in lawns, they also eat harmful insects, helping us in their own little way. And let's not forget, their alert calls warning of predators are a great help to other animals too. So, that's the story of the

ground squirrel, a small animal with a big personality!



Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

1) Why are ground squirrels sometimes considered helpful to humans?

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D. They keep larger animals away from

homes

2) Where do ground squirrels make their homes?

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eading	www.CommonCoreSheets.com	Page 2 of 5	11-20	45	40	35	30	25	20	15	10	5	0

Name:

- - 17) "My fur changes color to green in the summer, to blend with the grass."
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Determine if the statement is a fact or opinion based on the information in the article.

- **20**) Ground squirrels usually have brown, grey or black coloured fur.
- 21) Ground squirrels are the cutest when they stand on their hind legs, showing off their long tails.
- **22**) Ground squirrels hibernate during winter months.
- 23) Ground squirrels eating small birds is the most interesting thing about their diet.
- 24) Burrows, used as homes and safe places from predators, are where ground squirrels usually live.
- 25) Ground squirrels are annoying because they eat plants and damage gardens.
- **26)** Ground squirrels store food in their burrows to eat during hibernation in winter
- **27**) Ground squirrels eat a combination of plants and animals.
- 28) Ground squirrels are the best animals to watch because they are always so active.
- It is quite extraordinary how ground squirrels store food in their burrows for the whole winter.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- **30**) Ground squirrels warn other animals of predators with their calls.
- **31)** Ground squirrels make their homes high in trees.
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- 34) Not only do ground squirrels eat nuts and fruits, they also eat small birds.
- **35**) Ground squirrels hibernate in the summer.
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- **37**) Ground squirrels are usually 4 to 6 feet long.
- Ground squirrels are usually shades of brown, grey or black.
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Determine which choice is the expanded form of the underlined contraction.

- **40**) They're known for their bushy tails.
 - A. there are B. they are C. their are D. they were
- **41**) When <u>it's</u> winter, ground squirrels hibernate.
 - A. it is B. it has C. it was D. it were



Ground Squirrel

Name:

42) Ground squirrels aren't just one color.

A. is not

B. were not

C. am not

D. are not

43) Ground squirrels <u>can't</u> fly, but they're good climbers.

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C. will not

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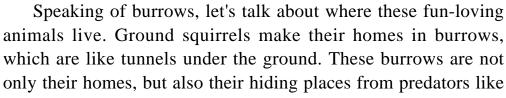
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	Ground Squ	ıirrel	Name:
1.	26.		
2.	27.		
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22.	47.	_	
23.	48.		
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1. <u>C</u> 26. <u>fact</u>	
D	
2. D 27. fact	
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5. A 30. true	
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8. D 33. false	
9. false 34. true	
10. true 35. false	
11. false 36. false	
12. false 37. false	
13. true 38. true	
14. false 39. true	
15. true 40. B	
16. true 41. A	
17. false 42. D	
18. false 43. A	
19. true 44. C	
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25. opinion 50. interrogat	ive



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