



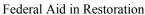


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How to Use the Trapper Education Workbook

In most situations students will be expected to complete this workbook before attending a class or test. Refer to the DNR website or supplemental Trapper Education information concerning these requirements. Content standards and student performance objectives are included to make it easier for you to find the pages to study when answering the questions. Some objectives are not followed by questions or exercises, but you can expect these objectives to be covered in the course or as part of the test. All objectives are important.

Make note of any questions you have about the material and ask your instructor to explain more if you do not understand. You should use the Trapper Education Manual and the Guide to Hunting & Trapping In Maryland as you complete the workbook. Additional information can be found in other DNR publications and on the DNR web page at www.dnr.state.md.us.

Completing the workbook is an important part of the trapper education course. Using it will reduce the amount of time you need to spend in class and allow more time for productive, hands-on training with your instructor(s).





Chapter 1 – Introduction to Trapper Education

Content Standard - Students demonstrate an understanding of the purpose of trapping and trapper education in today's society

List five positive or negative values of furbearers including ecological, biological, cultural, aesthetic, and economic values.

List two products that come from turbearers:
1 2
List two problems caused by furbearers:
1 2
List two positive values of furbearers in functioning ecosystems:
1 2
List two problems that may result when furbearers overpopulate:
1 2
Trapping is valued by many people as part of their heritage. Trapping provides people with food and
Furbearers help us understand health.
Furbearers may expose humans to disease and
Furbearers have positive values for and wildlife watching.
List a minimum of four benefits that regulated trapping provides to society.
List ways that society benefits from trappers:
1. Disease
2. 3.
4.
5
Choose correctly that trapping is an individual privilege, not an individual right.
Trappers who violate laws can lose their to trap.





Identify a minimum of two state or national trappers associations that provide materials and continuing education for trappers.

Name t	wo trapping associations you can join:
1. 2.	
Kn	ow the legal types of traps that may be used in Maryland.
Put a c	heck mark beside the traps that are legal to use in Maryland:
1. 2. 3. 4. 5.	Foothold traps Body-gripping traps Cable devices (snares) Cage traps Traps with teeth
Na	me the species of furbearers that inhabit Maryland.
Using N state:	Maryland's trapping regulations, name five common furbearers that are legal to trap in the
1.	
2. 3.	
4.	
5.	
	ow that the Trapper Education Course is based on Best Management Practices veloped by wildlife biologists, trappers, and researchers.
Name f Practice	ive factors or components considered during the development of Best Management es:
1. 2.	Animal welfare
	
4.	
5.	

Chapter 2 – Historical Considerations

Content Standard - Students use knowledge of history, public attitudes about wildlife, and the





North American Model of Wildlife Conservation to understand regulated trapping as a legitimate activity.

Students become aware of the fur trade's role in the exploration and settlement of North America.

Students recognize that fish and wildlife resources are publicly owned, and managed according to society's laws, values, and attitudes.
State and federal wildlife agencies are entrusted with the of wildlife for the benefit of all people.
place the highest values on preserving habitats, ecosystems, and sustainable populations of wildlife.
Students identify key components of the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation.
has been the primary basis for wildlife restoration and management.
Chapter 3 – Furbearer Management
Content Standard - Students use knowledge of furbearer management principles, practices, and issues to explain current management programs in Maryland.
Identify the government agency with the authority to manage furbearer resources and regulate trapping in Maryland.
Name the agency that regulates trapping in Maryland:
Explain the difference between a renewable and a non-renewable resource.
Name two renewable resources:
Name two non-renewable resources:





Identify the components of habitat and name three types of habitats used by furbearers.

Name four components (parts) of habitat:
1
Name three types of habitat used by furbearers:
1 2 3
Identify two key concepts of sustainable management of wildlife resources.
Name the two key concepts of sustainable furbearer management:
1. A focus on 2. A focus on
Name three principles that are applied in the harvest of wild animals in North America
Complete these statements:
 The species is not The harvest techniques are The killing of the animals serves a
Identify the major factors that affect wildlife populations.
Food supplies can be a limiting factor for wildlife. Name two more limiting factors:
1. 2.
Explain the difference between managing furbearers for compensatory mortality and additive mortality.
When furbearers overpopulate and cause problems, biologists may need to reduce the population. This means the biologists must manage for mortality.





Identify regulated trapping as the most efficient and practical means available to accomplish regular furbearer population reductions.





Explain conditions that could lead to changes in trapping regulations.

Name at least three reasons wildlife agencies might change trapping regulations:

1. 2. 3.		
3.		
	e Guide to Hunting & Trapping legal trap sets and tagging req	
Pick two furbearers that are con information about seasons and l	nmon where you live. Use Marylar egal trap types.	nd's regulations to fill in the
Furbearer		
Season		
Legal Traps		
	e Guide to Hunting & Trapping ermission to trap on private pro	
Write down the requirements for permission to trap on private property below:		
Explain the process for re	porting wildlife violations.	
Never a violator Safely observe the situation and report it to a Provide descriptions of the violators, vehicles, locations, and		





Chapter 5 – Best Management Practices

Content Standard - Students understand Best Management Practices for Trapping are needed to address animal welfare, trapping efficiency, selectivity, and safety in furbearer management

programs.
State the name of the organization that coordinates development of Best Management Practices for trapping.
State the full name of the organization known as AFWA:
Explain that BMPs are based upon scientific information and professional experience regarding currently available traps and trapping technology.
Recognize that the Trapping BMP Project is designed to provide wildlife management professionals in the United States with the data necessary to assist in improvements to animal welfare in trapping programs.
Recognize that trapping BMPs are intended to be a practical tool for trappers and wildlife biologists to use for decision-making in the field.
Trapping BMPs will:
 Improve welfare Help avoid the unintended of other animals Increase public for trapping
Identify BMP criteria for the evaluation of trapping devices including animal welfare, efficiency, selectivity, practicality, and safety.
Identify where to find detailed BMP information for each furbearer species.
Write down the URL address for the Furbearer Management Web site:
http://www.





Chapter 6 - Traps

Content Standard - Students demonstrate the ability to identify types of traps, prepare traps for use, and safely operate traps

Identify traps as kill-type or live-restraining devices.

Identify each of the following traps as either kill-type or live-restraining devices:	
Body-gripping traps are Foothold traps and cage traps are	

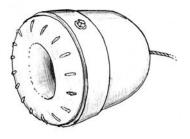




Identify live-restraining traps, including long-spring and coil-spring foothold traps, guarded traps, enclosed foothold traps, and cable devices.

Name each of the traps shown below:

- A. Enclosed Foothold
- B. Longspring
- C. Coil-spring Foothold
- D. Cable Device
 E. Guarded Foothold





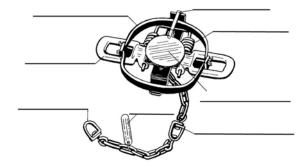






Label the parts of the trap shown below:

- A. Dog
- B. Coil-spring
- C. Pan D. Tag
- E. Swivel
- F. Swivel
- G. Jaw
- H. Lever



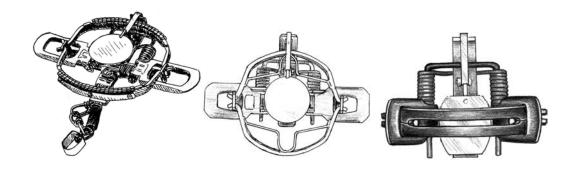


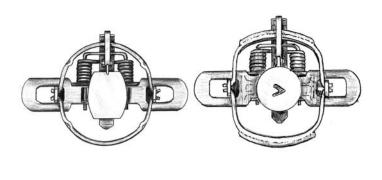


Identify jaw frame characteristics and modifications including plain jaws, padded jaws, offset jaws, double jaws, and laminated or wide jaws.

Name each of the jaw frame types shown below:

- A. Plain Jaw
- B. Padded Jaw
- C. Offset Jaw
- D. Double Jaw
- E. Laminated Jaw





Know that foothold traps can be used in submersion sets for muskrats, mink, river otters, nutria, and beaver.

List the advantages of using submersion sets below:

1.	Ensures	of trapped animals
2.	Fewer	and less pelt
3.	Less chance of	of traps or
4	Less	at the set

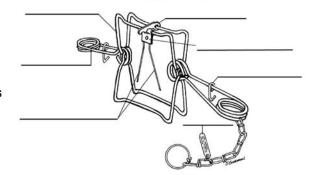




Identify kill-type devices including body-gripping traps.

Label the parts of the body-gripping trap shown below:

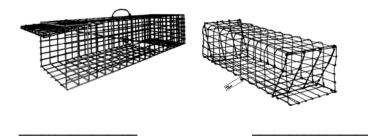
- A. Dog
- B. Jaw C. Trigger
- D. Safety Catch
- E. Tag
- F. Trigger Wires
- G. Spring



Identify live-restraining cage traps and kill-type colony traps for use in submersion sets.

Match the two traps below with their name:

- A. Live-restraining cage trap
- B. Kill-type colony trap







Identify non-powered cable devices, powered cable devices, relaxing locks, and non-relaxing locks.

Match the traps shown below with their names:

- A. Powered cable device
- B. Non-powered cable device with relaxing lock
- C. Non-powered cable device with non-relaxing lock







Identify trap anchoring systems including single stakes, cross stakes, earth anchors, drags, grapples, and springs.

Under most conditions, stakes should be _____ inches in length

Explain how swivels are used and why they are important.

Swivels reduce the chance of ______ by allowing a trap to move freely in the same direction as the animal's foot.

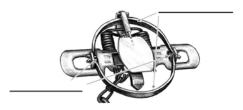




Demonstrate methods of measuring jaw spread at dog and jaw spread at hinge posts.

Label the picture below as showing the measurement points for either:

Jaw spread at dog Jaw spread at hinge posts



Demonstrate trap-tuning procedures including the abilities to file a trap jaw to remove sharp edges, level trap pans, adjust pan tension, and adjust the pan throw.

Be prepared to show your instructor how to tune a trap.

Explain the process and the purpose for cleaning, rusting, dyeing, and waxing new traps; and why body-gripping traps should not be waxed.

Be prepared to explain the process you will use for your type of traps.

Demonstrate how to safely set and release at least one type of foothold trap and to safely set one common kill-type device.

Be prepared to demonstrate safe trap-setting procedures in class.

Chapter 7 – Trapping Equipment

Content Standard - Students identify essential and non-essential clothing and equipment used to set traps and run a trapline.

Describe clothing needed for various trapping methods and weather conditions.

The clothing you will need varies by the type of trapping you will do and the climate in your area. Below, describe the primary type of trapping you will do and make a list of the clothing you will need.

– · · · · · · ·		
Furbearers you will trap:		
i uincaicis vuu wiii iiau.		





Clothing you will need:			
Identify tools, mate	erials, and supplies nee	ded to make sets and re	un a trapline.
For the types of furbeard you will need:	ers you will be trapping, n	nake a list of the tools, ma	aterials, and supplies
Chapter 8 - Using,	Baits, Lures, and Ui	rine	
Content Standard - Stu furbearers to sets.	udents explain responsible	e use of lures, baits, and	urine to attract
Explain when and urine to attract spe	how to use bait, glandu ecific furbearers.	lar lures, food lures, cu	riosity lures, and
	mmon to the area you will led. Your selections shoul imals.		
Furbearer	Bait	Lure	Urine





Chapter 9 – Selective Trapping Techniques

Content Standard - Students demonstrate an understanding of trapping principles and techniques that increase selectivity of sets.

Use knowledge of furbearers and their habits to select the best locations and make selective sets.

Select three furbearers common to your area, that you are likely to trap. Briefly describe their habitat, food, and habits that can help you make selective sets. Refer to the information in chapters 9 and 18 for this information.

Furbearer	Habitat	Food	Habits

Describe the use of sticks, rocks, or other material to guide target animals to a trap or divert non-target animals away from traps.

If you make a muskrat set at the edge of a stream you	can avoid ducks and other water birds by
	above the trap.

Describe the use of baits and lures that attract a target species and avoid non-target animals.

Explain that properly tuned BMP traps have been tested for selectivity and efficiency.

Pan tension is one important consideration for tuning traps. The pan tension for red fox should be set at ____ pounds.





Describe the importance of avoiding trails and other areas used by livestock, domestic animals, non-target wildlife, and humans.

Explain the importance of discussions with landowners and people who regularly use private lands where you intend to trap.

Describe the area where you will trap (private farm, public hunting area, your own land, leased and, etc.). List the kinds of activities other people may be doing there during the trapping seaso (bowhunting, duck hunting, camping, etc.) Type of area you will trap: Other people's activities:
Explain the importance of planning when, where, and how to trap on public land to avoid catching hunting dogs.
List the types of hunting in your area where hunters are likely to be using dogs (raccoon hunting pheasant hunting, etc.) If you are not sure, ask your family, friends, or instructors to help.
Explain how variations in trap placement at a dirt-hole set can increase selectivity.
At a dirt-hole set, try placing the trap inches from the hole for fox, and inches for coyotes.
Chapter 10 – Water Sets
Content Standard – Students demonstrate an understanding of the procedures for making safe effective, and selective sets in or near water.
Explain the benefits of using traps that meet Best Management Practice (BMP) specifications for water sets.
BMP traps have been tested for:
welfare ability to capture and hold animals
for furbearers
use in the field
Trapper concerns





Describe three reasons new trappers should start with water sets using kill-type traps or submersion trapping techniques.

No need to carry a Reduces chances of catching a Less chance an animal will	animal
Describe two basic techniques for	making submersion sets.
List two techniques for making submersio or describe them, for your instructor.	n sets. Be prepared to demonstrate these techniques,
1 2	
Explain or demonstrate the proced the furbearers that can be captured	ures for making three common water sets and name I in them.
Be prepared to demonstrate the procedur them for your instructor.	es for making three common water sets, or describe
Chapter 11 – Land Sets	
Content Standard - Students demonstrate effective, and selective sets on land.	te an understanding of the procedures for making safe,
Know that land trap locations influ	ence animal welfare and the selectivity of trap sets.
Trappers should set their land traps at loc	eations that:
Minimize exposure to Prevent entanglement with Are to capture furbe Avoid used by	
Explain the benefits of using traps specifications for land sets.	that meet Best Management Practice (BMP)
BMP traps have been tested for:	
Animal Efficient ability to	animals





Selectivity for			
Practical			
	safety con	cerns	
Identify for	ur good plac	es to make lan	d sets.
Good places for	r land sets ind	clude:	
ro	ws and	rows	
		gullies	
Near farm	that in	ntersect changir	ıg
Old		_	-

Explain or demonstrate the proper use of stakes, cross-stakes, cable stakes, drags, and grapples for anchoring traps on land.

Be prepared to explain or demonstrate the proper ways to anchor your traps.

Demonstrate the proper method for bedding a foothold trap at a land set.

Be prepared to demonstrate the proper method for bedding a foothold trap at a land set.

Demonstrate the proper method for covering a foothold trap set on land.

Be prepared to demonstrate the proper method for covering a foothold trap at a land set.

Explain or demonstrate the procedures for making three common land sets and name the furbearers that can be captured in them.

Be prepared to demonstrate or explain the procedures for making three common land sets and name furbearers found in your area that can be captured in them.

Chapter 12 – Cable Devices

Content Standard - Students demonstrate an understanding of cable devices, and responsible techniques for using them.



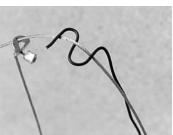


Identify cable device equipment and materials.

Match the labels below with their pictures:

- A. Multi-strand steel cable
- B. Non-powered cable device, relaxing lock, & deer stopC. Swivel and ferrule
- D. Loop stabilizing wire







Use Maryland's trapping regulations to determine if cable devices are legal to use. If so, describe any legal restrictions on their use.

Legal? Yes	_ No	
Describe:		



water.

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Explain the procedure for treating cable devices. Cable devices are treated before use for three reasons: Removes _____ odors
Adds natural _____ so the animal does not become suspicious Explain the procedures for making selective sets and using cable devices. Match the cable loop sizes and heights to the animal you want to catch: A. Loops 6 to 8", bottom 3 to 4" off ground B. Loops 6 to 8", bottom 6 to 8" off ground _____ Beaver land set C. Loops 10 to 12", bottom 10 to 12" off ground ______ Fox D. Loops 9 to 10", bottom 2 to 3" off ground Raccoon **Chapter 13 – Trapping Safety** Content Standard - Students demonstrate an understanding of potential risks to their personal health, safety, and welfare from trapping activities. Describe the conditions that cause hypothermia, symptoms of its presence, and treatment procedures. List three signs of hypothermia: Explain how to prevent hypothermia. Trappers can prevent hypothermia by wearing _____ clothing
Use _____ boots or ____ waders, plus long-sleeved _____ gloves when trapping in





Recognize the symptoms of frostbite and treatment procedures.

Symptoms of frostbite include:	
Describe the treatment procedure for frostbite:	
Recognize the danger of traveling on ice covered lakes, ponds, rivers, and streams.	
Avoid traveling on ice-covered and where water currents can caus weak spots. Carry a walking staff to help you check for in front of you as you trave	
f you fall through the ice try to climb out by facing the direction you when the ice gave way.	l
You should build a immediately when you reach shore unless you are close to shelter or your vehicle.	
Recognize dangers related to drowning while wading or trapping near water.	
t is a good idea to wear an inflatable personal when rapping around water.	
When wading in streams, it is best to travel	
f you use a boat or canoe follow all regulations, and take asafety course.	

Explain how to manage the risks for contracting diseases or parasites including rabies, West Nile virus, tularemia, Lyme disease, mange, and trichinosis.





General trapping precautions to follow to protect against diseases include: Wear protective gloves, eye protection, and protective coveralls when handling or scat. and thoroughly with soap and water after handling animals. Wash ____ boards, _____ surfaces, and other Clean and disinfect equipment with a solution of ½ cup household bleach in 1 gallon of water. Avoid _____ animals or ones that do not act Do not _____ untreated water from lakes and streams. Cook all _____ thoroughly. Recognize and manage the risks for being bitten or injured by wild or domestic animals. If bitten by an animal you should wash wounds thoroughly with _____ and ____, apply bandages, and seek Keep the animal confined if possible, or kill it without damaging the so authorities can examine it for rabies. Recognize the importance of making yourself visible to hunters. Trappers should make themselves visible to hunters by wearing hunter clothing. Recognize and manage the risks of setting large body-gripping traps for beaver. When setting large body-gripping traps, trappers should carry setting tongs and a length of _____ with a _____ in the end. Describe the rules of firearm safety that apply to trapping. off the trap or rocks. When shooting at an animal in a trap be careful about Always look beyond your when shooting a firearm. Keep the _____ under control and pointed in a safe direction. Treat every gun as if it is ______.

Know the importance of carrying a map and compass when trapping.

Be prepared to explain the importance of carrying a map and compass.





Explain important rules for survival including the use of a buddy system, the need to tell someone where you are going and when you plan to return, the value of a wireless phone, and the need to carry matches or firestarters.

Always tell your family exactlyA trapper should know how to start a	you are going and 	you plan to return.
Explain the importance of weari	ng a seatbelt when traveling	to or from trapping areas
Driving to and from hunting and trappin hunting or trapping activity. Always wea	g locations may be more ar a when d	than the riving.
Chapter 14 – Running a Trap L	ine	
Content Standard - Students demonst attitudes needed to safely and respons Practices		
Explain the importance of obtain season opens.	ing permission to trap on pri	vate land before the
Early is the best time to Obtaining permission early will give you opens.	to ask a farmer for permission t u plenty of time to	o trap. _ before trapping season
Describe the advantages of pre-s	season scouting.	
Pre-season scouting trips allow you to you will need to ma	find places to so ke your sets.	et your traps and plan the
Make a commitment to check yo	ur traps at least once every o	lay.
Animal is the top priority Most furbearers are nocturnal, so it is b each morning.	est to check your lived-restrain	ing traps at first
Checking traps each day, early in the n or will be stolen.	norning, will mean there is less	chance that





State three or more reasons to check traps early each morning.

List at least four reasons to check your traps early each morning:
Describe two ways to safely, quickly, and humanely kill a furbearing animal.
Describe two methods to safely, quickly, and humanely kill a furbearing animal caught in a live-restraining trap:
Describe two ways to release a non-target animal from a foothold trap.
Describe two ways to release a non-target animal from a trap in the space below:
Describe what to do if a domestic animal or a pet is caught in a foothold trap.
If you catch a domestic animal in a foothold trap examine it closely for before you release it. If it is, contact the animal's, or the landowner where you trap so the animal can be treated.
Compare the decision to make a few good sets for furbearers versus setting as many traps as possible.
Pre-season scouting and planning will help you make sets that have a chance of





If you rush your se	ts, they may be low quality a	and catch
furbearers.		
Describe responsible fur han	ndling procedures in the fi	eld and why it is important.
In the space below describe proper	fur handling procedures in	the field:
State three reasons a trappe	r should keep a daily journ	 nal.
Three reasons to keep a daily jourr	nal of your trapping activities	s include:
Increase your Guide others to your traps if you ge Save your to enjo	et y over the years	
Chapter 15 – Using Furbea	rers	
Content Standard - Students dem furbearers.	onstrate an understanding o	of the full value of harvested
Know the advantages, disador pelts.	vantages, and procedures	for four ways to sell furbearers
List four ways to sell fur:		
Local		
Traveling Selling by Fur		
Choose the method you think you	will use to sell fur, and expla	in why in the space below:
Know that furbuyers will graded density, damage, and other co		meness, size, color, texture, fur
Furbearer pelts are prime during _ Prime pelts have dense	and fully developed	hairs.





Know that meat from some furbearers can be used for human consumption.

Name three kinds of fur 1 2 3		ryland that car	n be eaten by	people:	
	om some furbearer	s can be fed t	to dogs or us	sed for food	at mink
Name two furbearers us	sed to feed dogs or n	nink:			
	and				
Know that glands use as perfume.	from some furbeard	ers can be ma	ade into lure	or sold for	commercial
Male and female beave	r have	glands and	d oil	that trappers	s can sell.
Know that furbear interpretation.	er skulls are somet	imes needed	for science	classes or r	nature
Dermestidclasses.	are useful for	cleaning skull	s and other b	ones to use	in science
Describe why it is processing.	important to prope	rly dispose o	f any animal	parts that r	emain after
Improper disposal of ar problems.	imal parts could leac	d to	or		health

Chapter 16 - Handling Fur

Content Standard - Students demonstrate an understanding of the knowledge, skills, and equipment needed to safely skin animals and prepare the pelts for market.





Explain the importance of wearing latex gloves when processing furbearers.

Latex gloves will help protect you from animal
Explain the terms "cased furs" and "open furs."
Except for beaver and badger, all furbearers should be skinned
Explain the terms "market fur in" and "market fur out."
Fur-in means that the fur side of the pelt should be on the when the case-skinned pelt is taken to market.
Explain why the tails of some furbearers are split and left on the pelt while the tails of others are removed.
Furbearers with tails should have their tails split and the should be removed.
Know the purpose of a fleshing board and fleshing tools.
Once you have skinned a furbearer, the next step is
Describe the proper use of wire and wooden stretchers.
A stretcher holds the pelt in place as it so that it does not shrink or shrivel.
Explain the process of drying pelts and why it is important.
If a pelt is not properly dried it can and the value will be lost.
Explain the process for freezing pelts.
Explain the procedure for "boarding beaver."
Beaver pelts are skinned open. The pelt is then onto a plywood board or onto a hoop frame for drying.





Chapter 17 – Responsible Trapping

Content Standard - Students demonstrate an awareness of their responsibilities to landowners, wildlife, other outdoor users, and the public.

Know that there are legal and social obligations to follow trapping regulations.
In most situations, trapping is considered a
Know that responsible trapping involves many decisions that cannot be defined by law.
When you behave in ways that are good for animal welfare, landowners, other outdoor users, and the public, you will be an trapper.
Know that ethics is a system of principles for good conduct.
Ethics deals with or in human behavior.
List three specific ways trappers can demonstrate responsible behavior concerning wildlife.
List three ways to demonstrate responsible behavior concerning wildlife when trapping:
1
List three specific ways trappers can demonstrate responsible behavior to the public.
List three ways to demonstrate responsible behavior to the public when trapping:
1

List three specific ways trappers can demonstrate responsible behavior to other trappers.



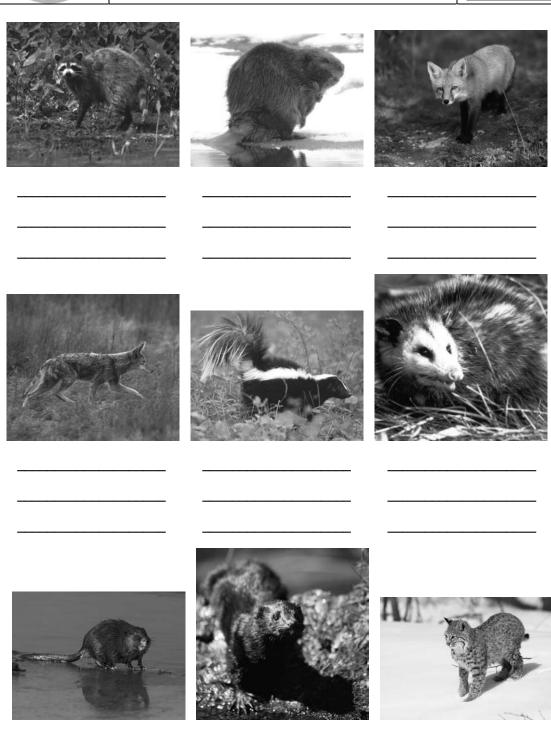


Chapter 18 - Species Accounts

Identify the furbearers in the following pictures. Under each, list the type(s) of habitat where the animal may be found and a major type of food that it eats.

















Identify the following tracks:

