

Looking for tracks is easy and fun. You can use the Tracks Guide on the next page to help you identify the tracks you find.

Here is some helpful vocabulary for noticing and describing the tracks you see:

Webbing: Skin between the toes; this track doesn't have webbing, but some animals like beaver, or this duck, do:

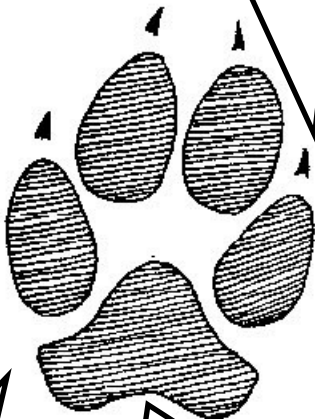


Claws: Sometimes tracks have claw marks. They may be long, short, sharp or round. Some animals, like cats, tuck their claws in when they walk and do not leave claw marks!

Toes: Toe marks are sometimes long like *fingers*, or short and *round* like on this track. Sometimes the toes are a hoof, like this deer track:



This deer track has 2 toes that are hoof-like.



Dog Track
"Woof! Woof!"

Heel Pad: Heel pads are the cushion part of the animal's foot. On humans, this is the palm of our hand, or the heel of our foot. This heel pad is one piece. Some tracks have more complex heel pads, like this squirrel track:



Animal Tracks

at Vancouver Lake Regional Park

Have you ever spotted an animal track? Cool! Tracks are a great way to learn about the animals that live in your area. Tracks can tell you who was there, how they were moving and even a bit about what they were doing!

Take a look at this picture of tracks found in the mud near the beach at Vancouver Lake Park:



- Can you spot the tracks in the mud?
- How many different types of tracks do you see?
- Do you recognize any of these tracks?

Think about what else the tracks might tell us: the direction the animal went, their speed, or maybe one animal chased off another? Did they leave anything else behind like food or feathers? *What do you notice?*

Animal Tracks Guide

To find tracks at Vancouver Lake Park, head to the sandy beach or the soft, muddy edges along the lake. Can you find any of the tracks shown here? Can you find tracks that are different? Tracks are measured from top to bottom.



Coyote
2.5-3"



Large Dog
3-4"



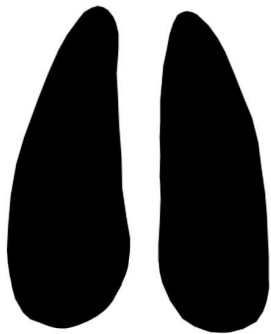
Beaver
Front: 3", Hind: 6"



Great Blue Heron
6-8"



Canada Goose
4"



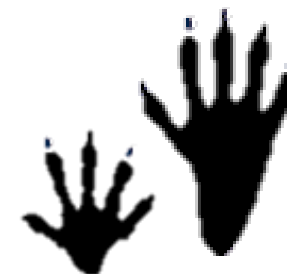
Deer
3"



Bobcat
2"



Crow
3"



Raccoon
Front: 2.5", Hind: 4"

