

North American Animals



Learn about three North American
Animals: Wolf, Grizzly Bear, Bobcat.
Cast the bodies of each for study and
display.



Skulduggery, Inc.

MAMMAL CASTING KIT

ANIMALS OF NORTH AMERICA

★ Read directions thoroughly before starting. ★

This kit is a fascinating, educational and creative introduction to North American animals. The Bobcat, the Gray Wolf and the Grizzly are three diverse and intriguing animals that peek the interest of people around the world. Discover how these mammals live in the wild. Learn about their individual habits and life cycles. Cast and paint the bodies and tooth of each of these animals. Add magnets to each cast for display on any metal surface. With additional casting material, unlimited casts can be made for gifts for friends and family.

MATERIALS PROVIDED

- Information about three North American animals; Bobcat, Gray Wolf and Grizzly.
- Casting (PerfectCast) material to make three unique animals along with a sample tooth from each animal. To make additional animals and their teeth, PerfectCast is available from your local retailer.
- 2 mold trays containing three different animals and teeth.
- Instructions explaining how to use the mold trays.
- Paints and paint brush with which to finish each animal and tooth.
- Magnets and glue used to attach animals and teeth.
- Bibliography.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Disposable container to mix PerfectCast. A can or paper cup will work nicely.
- Mixing utensil.

WARNING: Don't place hand in casting material while it is hardening. Don't pour excess material into drain or toilet bowl. Dispose of excess material in garbage.

★ Adult supervision suggested ★

INSTRUCTIONS

Find an area with a flat, level, stable working surface, such as a counter-top, desktop or table. Make sure the surface is waterproof; some excess water may spill out of your container. Use a disposable container to mix the PerfectCast and water.

1. Place the mold tray on a flat, stable surface.
2. In a disposable container, mix PerfectCast using a ratio (by volume) of 1 part cold water to 3 parts PerfectCast. *See tip below for suggestion on estimating the amount of PerfectCast to use for your cast.*
3. Stir the PerfectCast/water mixture with a spoon or mixing stick until it is evenly mixed (about 1½ minutes). Tap the container on the table several times to remove air bubbles. There should be no lumps.
4. Pour the PerfectCast mixture into the mold. Tap the mold on the work surface to remove the remaining bubbles.

WARNING: Do not pour excess material into the drain or toilet bowl. Dispose of excess materials in the garbage.

5. Let PerfectCast set for 30 to 40 minutes. If the object is delicate, allow at least one hour before demolding.
6. After the mixture hardens, carefully press each part out of the mold. If a section should break, use glue to repair it or cast additional sections.
7. Read the educational information on sharks.
8. Let casts dry for 2 hours before painting. Consult color suggestions on page 7 for painting the casts. Separate the paint pots from each other with sissors before painting. Adding a small amount of water to the paint will thin it for easier application as well as insure enough paint to cover the complete item.
9. Using the guide on page 7, glue the magnets on the animals and teeth or glue them on a background of your choice.

Tip: How to measure the volume of the objects to be cast.

If you have purchased additional PerfectCast or don't want to mix all the PerfectCast included in your kit, follow the instructions below to determine how much PerfectCast to mix.

Fill all the cavities you intend to cast with water and pour into a measuring cup. This is the total volume of the finished casts.

For each fluid ounce needed, mix 1½ fluid ounces of PerfectCast and ½ fluid ounce of water. The mixture should have a consistency of a runny milkshake or melted ice cream.

BOBCAT

Lynx rufus

The Bobcat is one of the most shy and reclusive animals in North America. This carnivorous feline is nocturnal and remains a very rare sight in the wild. Bobcats are solitary animals, preferring to live alone, only coming together to mate. As expert climbers, Bobcats spend their days resting in low tree branches, on boulders or in dense thickets. Its mottled



fur provides excellent camouflage that allows this animal to remain virtually undetected during the daylight hours. Bobcats live throughout North America, from coast to coast, from Canada to Mexico. They are most plentiful in the Far West.

The male bobcat is larger than the female, weighing between 14 to 29 pounds. Its short stubby,

“bobbed” tail gave rise to the name Bobcat. This animal is a tawny color with distinct dark markings. The fur on the tail has two or three black stripes and is tipped in black. The upper legs have dark or black stripes. One of its distinct features is its short tufts at the tips of the ears. Its face is rather thin, sometimes with black lines radiating into its broad cheek fur, giving the appearance of sideburns.

The Bobcat is a cunning nocturnal hunter. It hunts small animals such as mice, rabbits birds, foxes and woodchucks. Upon spotting its prey, the bobcat will wait motionlessly for the unsuspecting victim and will time its pounce perfectly for the kill. The bobcat will stalk larger prey and rush the victim for the attack, biting the throat, base of the skull and the chest. Occasionally its will attack even larger prey such as a deer while the victim is sleeping. Rather than devouring a larger animal at once, the bobcat will stash away the body only to revisit it from time to time for a meal. Like other predators the Bobcat can fast when food is not available but eats often when it is plentiful.

The female Bobcat make nests of twigs and leaves in the shelter of rocks or caves to give birth. She can give birth to from 1-7 kittens but the average litter is 2-3. The kittens are totally dependent on their mother for the first few months and stay with her for about a year.

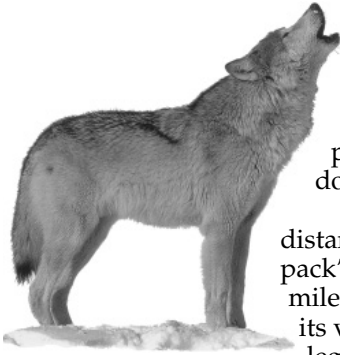
If lucky, Bobcats have a life span of 10-14 years. Unfortunately, many have been mercilessly trapped for their fur or hunted with hounds for sport. Man is perhaps the Bobcats worst enemy!

GRAY WOLF

Canis lupus

Unlike the Bobcat, the wolf is a very social animal. The Gray Wolf lives in packs of 2-15, comprised mostly of family members, however, sometimes two packs will combine. They once roamed most of North America but are now only found in Alaska, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Minnesota and Canada.

The Gray Wolf is usually grizzled gray with variations of color ranging from white to black. It has a large bushy tail, tipped with black fur. A male wolf can weigh as much as 130 pounds. Its legs are quite long compared to its body.



The leader of the wolf pack is called the alpha male, usually the strongest of the pack. There can also be an alpha female who dominates the lower ranking males.

Wolf packs travel more often and greater distances than most other land animals. Some pack's territories cover from 100 to 260 square miles. A pack hunts together by chasing down its victims and ripping the tendons in the hind legs, rendering them helpless. Sometimes a wolf will force its victim back to its waiting

pack members.

Wolves hunt primarily at night, feeding on large mammals such as deer, moose and caribou. They have also been known to feed on smaller animals as well as birds, fish, insects and berries. A wolf needs to eat about three and a half pounds of meat a day. Like the Bobcat, the wolf can fast when food is scarce and gorge when food is plentiful. Wolves can run 30 miles per hour for short distances to catch their prey. The Gray Wolf runs with its tail held straight out behind.

Wolves do not live in shelters. During a blizzard they will stay warm by curling their tail over their paws and nose allowing the snow to cover them. The layer of snow provides insulation against the frigid temperature. Wolves will, however, seek shelter during the birthing process and to protect the young pups for about two months after birth.

When wolf pups are born the whole pack will help with their care. An adult wolf will stay in the shelter with the pups while the rest of the pack hunts for food. When the hunters return, some of the wolves will regurgitate their food for the pups and the pup's guardian.

The Gray wolf can live to be 10 to 18 years old. Although wolves are not a threat to humans, humans are the wolves greatest threat. The Gray Wolf is considered endangered throughout the United States except for Minnesota.

GRIZZLY BEAR

Ursus arctos

The Grizzly bear is also known as Brown Bear. In North America the Grizzly Bear population has severely declined and is considered threatened. The majority of Grizzlies now can be found in Western Canada, the Yukon and Alaska.

These huge animals can grow to be as large as 1500 pounds, but their size varies depending on the availability of food and climatic conditions. The color of their fur can range from a yellowish brown to dark brown. Their fur is often tipped with white giving the animal a

grizzled look. When the bear stands on all four legs it is about 3 1/2 feet tall. When it rears up on its hind legs it can be as tall as 7 feet.



The grizzly stands apart from other New World bears for his ferocity, size, strength and distinguishing physical characteristics. He does not climb trees and is a death-defying engine of destruction when cornered. His rocklike skull is long; the head is broad and dish-shaped with a short snout. Muscles of the jaws form a knot the size of a flattened football on each side of the head. This jaw enables the grizzly to crush an elk's skull as if it were an eggshell. Some experts think the grizzly is somewhat nearsighted. His hearing is more sensitive than humans and his sense of smell is reputed to be many times more acute

than that of a bloodhound.

A gigantic mound of muscle that forms a protruding shoulder hump drives the tremendous power of the front legs. It is this formidable mass that distinguishes the grizzly from the black bear.

The leg bones and shoulders are massive. The death-dealing hug of the grizzly is legendary. Using his forearms to crush prey, the grizzly's hind legs tear flesh from the victim. Grizzlies also scavenge garbage and carrion and dig in the dirt. The front and hind legs move together on each side imparting a shuffle-like appearance when the grizzly runs. His speed is admirable, as he has been clocked at 21 miles per hour while traversing rugged terrain.

The Grizzly has gigantic paws. The huge, flatfooted feet are designed to sustain the bear's tremendous weight so that each foot carries less than 20 percent the load a human foot does. This clumsy aspect does the grizzly proud in winter conditions when his feet operate like snowshoes that prevent him from sinking in snowdrifts as ungulates or humans do. The soles and toes are thickly padded and covered with a flexible, leathery hide that is impervious to cuts. Claws of the front feet are 4 to 6 inches long. These talon-like claws are kept perpetually sharp by raking them across tree bark. When a male grizzly sharpens his claws on a tree, he also demarcates his territory, which belongs to the male who can reach highest. These claws prevent the grizzly from climbing trees, but they also serve him as a weapon and a tool for digging.

Although the Grizzly is classified as a carnivore, a large portion of this bear's diet consists of vegetable matter including insects, berries, flowers and grasses. They also eat elk, moose, and a variety of small mammals. Bears need a very high caloric intake of food. During the summer and early fall, when food is plentiful, bears gorge themselves with as much food as possible. The bears gain an enormous amount of fat to sustain them during the cold winter months. For several months in the winter, bears sleep in the protection of caves or hollowed out logs. The bear does not go into true hibernation. They go into a deep sleep but can be easily awakened.

The life span of the Grizzly is 15 to 34 years in the wild. It is

considered a threatened species in the lower 48 states.

COLOR GUIDE



Bobcat Color Suggestion

Tawny color with distinct dark markings. The fur on the tail has two or three black stripes and is tipped in black. The upper legs have dark or black stripes.



Grey Wolf

Grizzled gray with variations of color ranging from white to black. The tail is tipped with black fur.



Grizzly Bear

Fur can range from a yellowish brown to dark brown. Fur is often tipped with white giving the animal a grizzled look.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

The non-grooved side of the magnet is the side that is most strongly attracted to metal. Magnets should be cut lengthwise down the middle and then into one inch pieces. The following chart indicates the number of 1" magnets. Remember to glue the grooved side of the magnet (when in doubt test on metal) to the casts.

Description	Magnets
Bobcat	4
Bobcat Tooth	½
Grey Wolf	6
Grey Wolf Tooth	1
Grizzly Bear	10
Grizzly Bear Tooth	2 ½

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COLOR MIXING GUIDE

Kits come with different sets of colors depending on the title of the kit. Mixing instructions may include colors not included in your kit.

Acrylic paints can be thinned with water if they get too thick. Be sure to clean brushes with soap and water before the paint hardens or the paint will become permanent.

Primary colors can be mixed to obtain many other colors. Mix a small amount of two or more colors on a non-absorbent surface.

Always begin with more of the lighter color and a small amount of the darker color. To darken or lighten colors, add small amounts of black, brown or white and mix. Take your time and allow the paint to mix thoroughly before adding more paint.

- White skin - add small amounts of red and yellow to white
- Black/brown skin - add small amounts of white, yellow, red & black
- Army green - mix blue and yellow and a small amount of black
- Ammonite green - mix blue and yellow and a small amount of white
- Carmel - mix small amounts of brown and yellow to white
- Tan or beige - add small amounts of red, brown and yellow to white
- Brown - mix black, yellow, red and green
- Orange - add small amounts of red with yellow
- Gray - mix small amounts of black with white
- Pink - mix small amounts of red with white
- Purple - mix red and blue
- Gold - mix small amounts of yellow with silver
- The pot labeled GL is glue
- Some kits come with a pot labeled ST. This is stain that can be used to antique your creation after painting. Paint on and wipe off

Download other Kit brochures at: <http://skullduggery.com>

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