

Marsh Rabbit



Marsh rabbits are smaller and darker brown than the cottontail rabbit. They are strong swimmers and eat aquatic plants.

Opossum



Opossums are the only marsupial found in Florida- mothers carry and nurse their babies in a pouch. They are about the size of a cat and have long, skinny, furless tails and pointed snouts.

Wild Hog (non-native)



Wild hogs can reach weights of more than 150 pounds and be 5 to 6 feet long. These non-native wild pigs tear up the ground to search for food. Look for signs of “rooting” off our boardwalk.

River Otter



River otters grow up to 4 feet long and have thick, waterproof brown fur. Their webbed feet, short legs and a long tail help them swim through the water.

Raccoon



Raccoons are known for their black mask and striped tails. Though typically nocturnal, seeing a raccoon foraging in the swamp during the day is not a sign of illness.

Muskrat (and lodge)



Muskrat dens are fashioned out of grass, reeds and sticks. The lodge serves as a nesting site and refuge from predators. Near the lodge are feeding platforms made of matted grass.

Bobcat



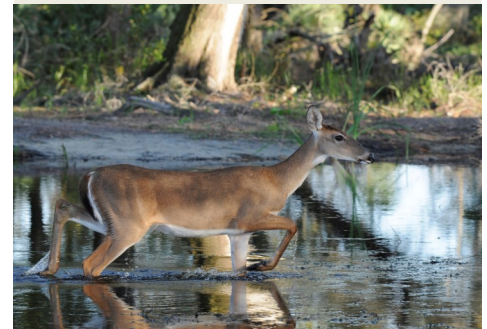
Bobcats typically hunt from sunset to midnight, and may venture out again at dawn. Their short tail appears “bobbed,” giving the bobcat its name.

Squirrel (and drey)



When not snuggling in tree cavities, gray squirrels build nests called “dreys” using peeled cypress bark, twigs, and leaves. Dreys are used to raise young and for shelter in inclement weather.

White-Tailed Deer



Florida white-tailed deer are significantly smaller than white-tails in northern states, but should not be confused with the even smaller Key Deer found only in the Florida Keys.