

Porcupines Fact Sheet

Fun, kid-friendly facts about one of Bailey's prickliest forest friends!

Animal Type	Large rodent
Habitat	Forests, woodlands, and rocky areas
Diet	Bark, leaves, twigs, buds, and fruit
Protection	Sharp quills cover much of the body

What Makes Porcupines Special?

- Porcupines have thousands of quills for protection.
- They cannot shoot their quills.
- They are strong climbers and spend time in trees.
- Most are shy and prefer to avoid danger.

What Do They Eat?

Porcupines are plant eaters. They munch on bark, leaves, twigs, buds, berries, and fruit.

Did You Know?

Baby porcupines are called **porcupettes**.

Their quills are special hairs made of keratin - the same material found in fingernails.

They may chatter their teeth or turn their back toward a threat as a warning.

Where Do They Live?

Porcupines live in forests and rocky woodlands across North America. They may rest in trees, hollow logs, or sheltered dens.

Fun Facts for Kids

- Porcupines are the second-largest rodents in North America.
- Their soft-looking fur hides a coat of sharp quills underneath.
- They use strong claws to climb and hold onto bark.
- They are most active in the evening and at night.

Be Kind to Wildlife

If you ever see a porcupine in the wild, give it space and enjoy watching from a safe distance. Wildlife is best appreciated without touching or feeding it.



Bailey Bearson Adventures

Real Porcupine Photos

Here are two real porcupine photos to help kids connect Bailey's story with wildlife in nature.



Porcupine resting in a tree



Porcupine perched on a branch

Did you know?

- Porcupines are excellent climbers and often spend time in trees.
- They cannot shoot their quills - the quills help protect them when predators get too close.
- Porcupines mostly eat bark, leaves, buds, and other plant material.

Photography by Steve Cochrane Photography LLC

