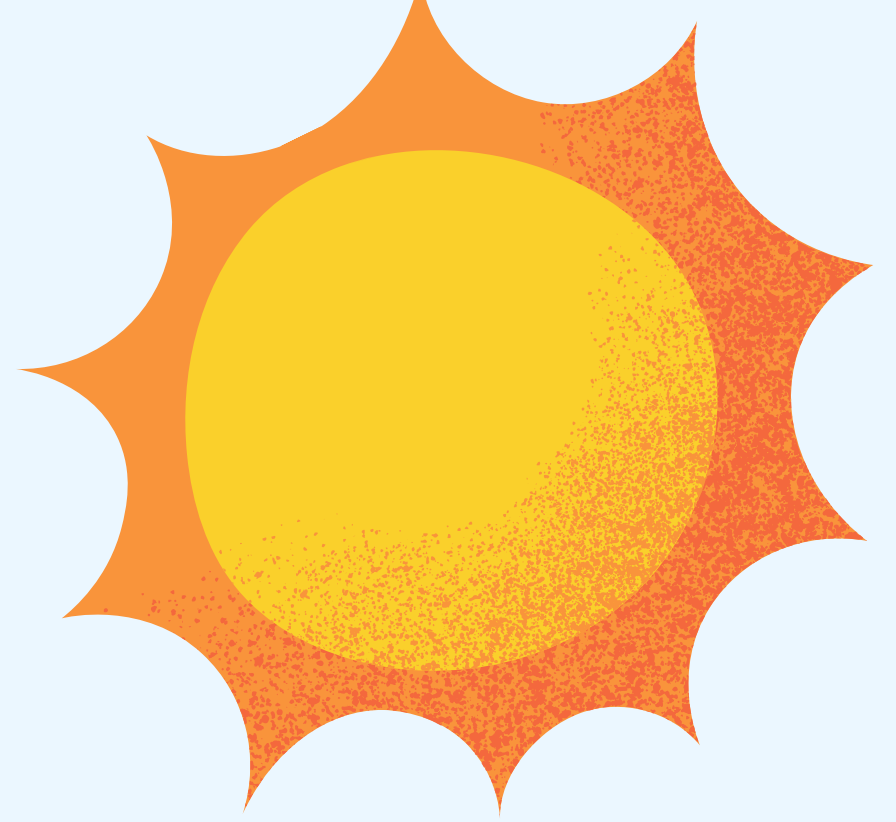


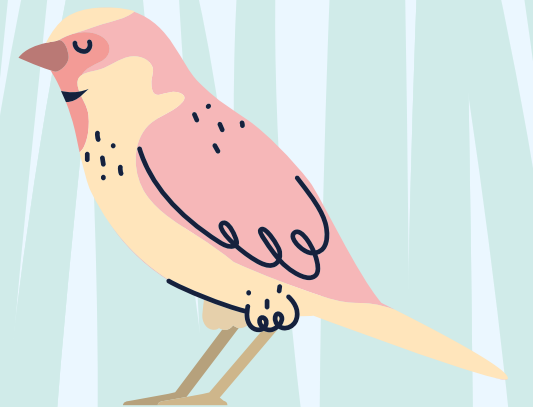
NATURE IN THE SCHOOLYARD




Nature is all around us. From the birds and squirrels, we see each day to the flowers and trees that grow in our yards. All animals and plants contribute in a unique way to the environment we all share.




What can you find?!



NATURE IN THE SCHOOLYARD

A stylized green tree with a brown trunk. A purple owl with yellow eyes is perched on a branch on the left. A red ladybug with black spots is on a branch in the middle. A pink and yellow bird is perched on a branch on the right. An acorn hangs from a branch on the left.

Trees create oxygen
and provide shelter and food
for many types of animals,
birds and insects

A green butterfly with brown markings is flying above three orange wildflowers. A black and yellow striped bee is flying near the flowers.

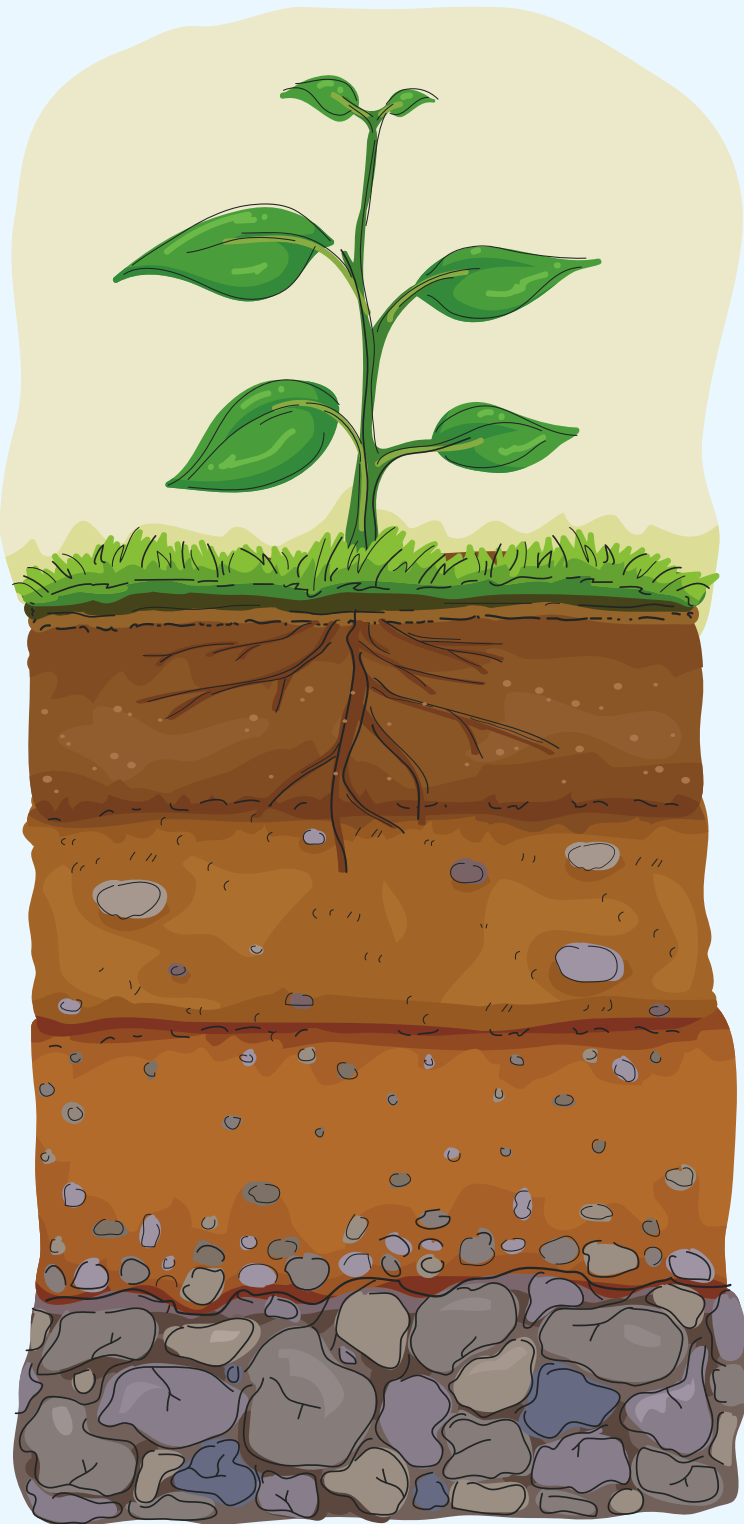
wildflowers and other plants
help build the soil, and create
nectar and seeds that
feed birds, bees and butterflys

A brown squirrel is sitting on the ground, holding a nut.

What can you find?!

NATURE IN THE SCHOOLYARD

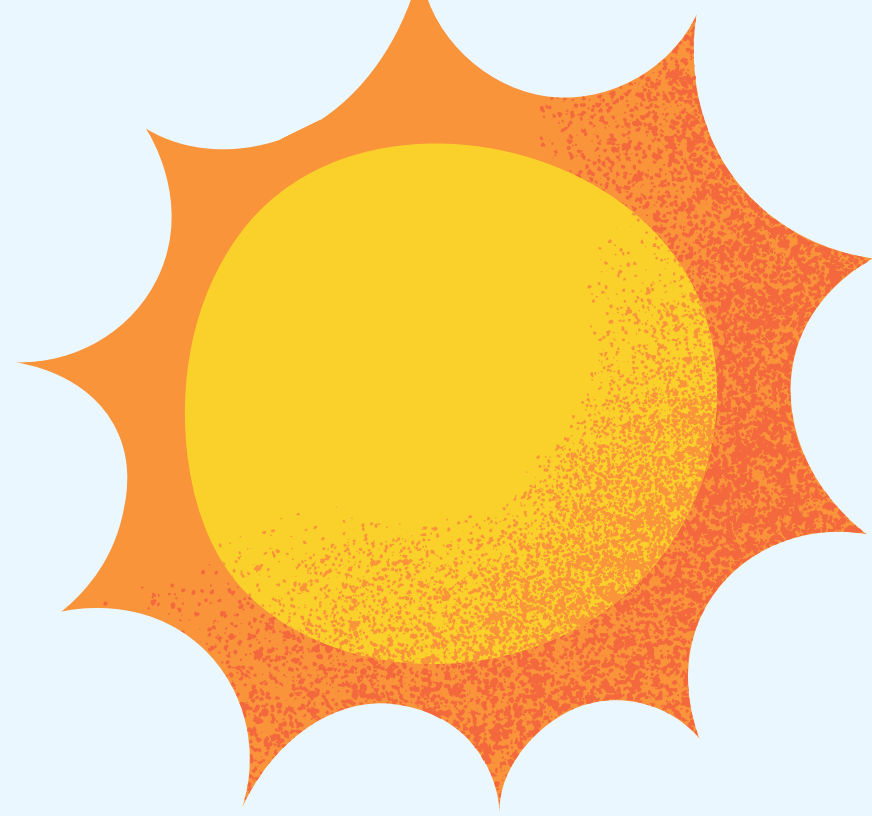
soil layers



There is a whole world beneath our feet!

Layers of soil support the growth of plants and trees. soil is also home to worms, larvae and burrowing animals. Worms help create healthy soil by composting matter and tunneling.

What can you find?!



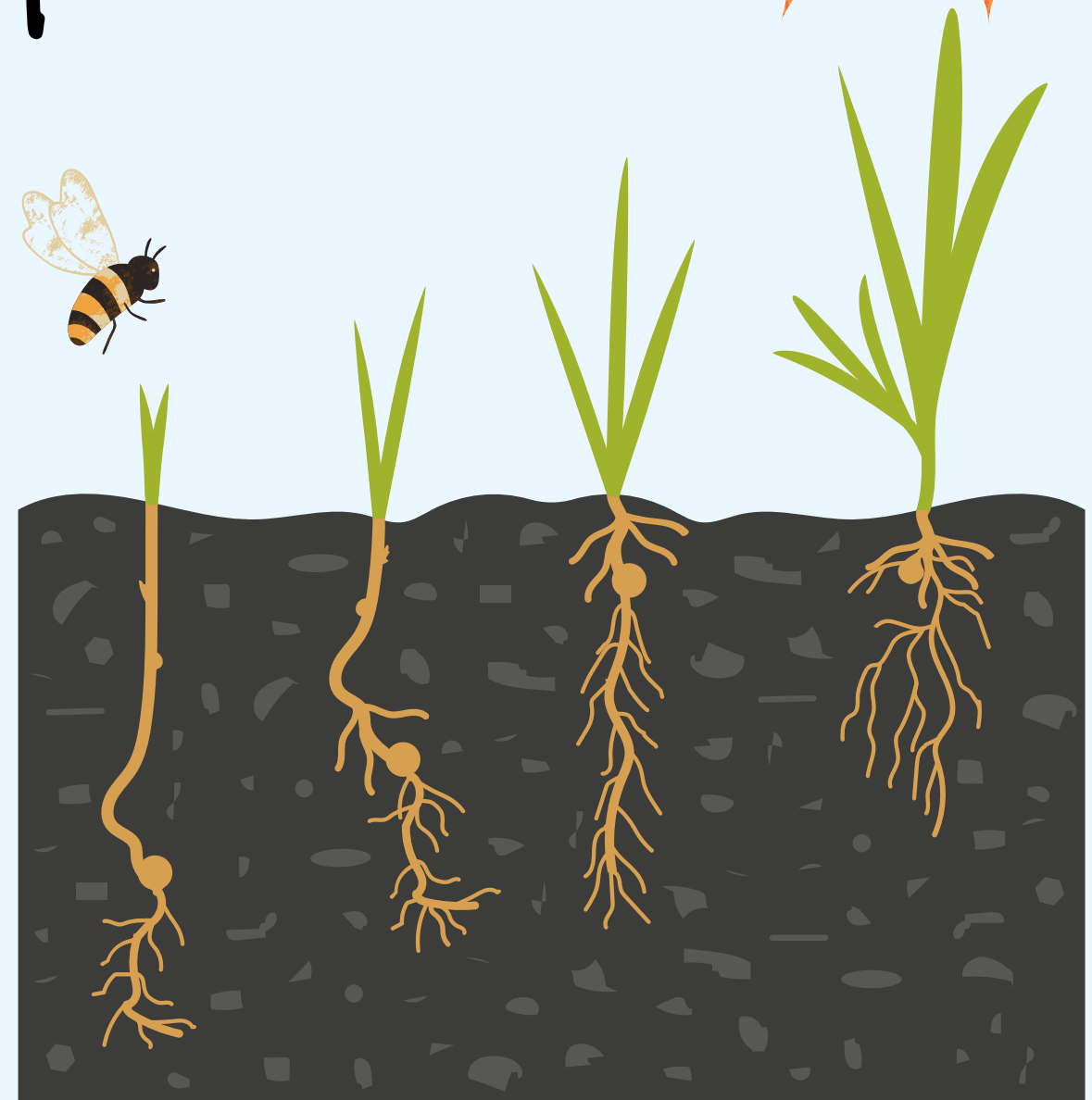
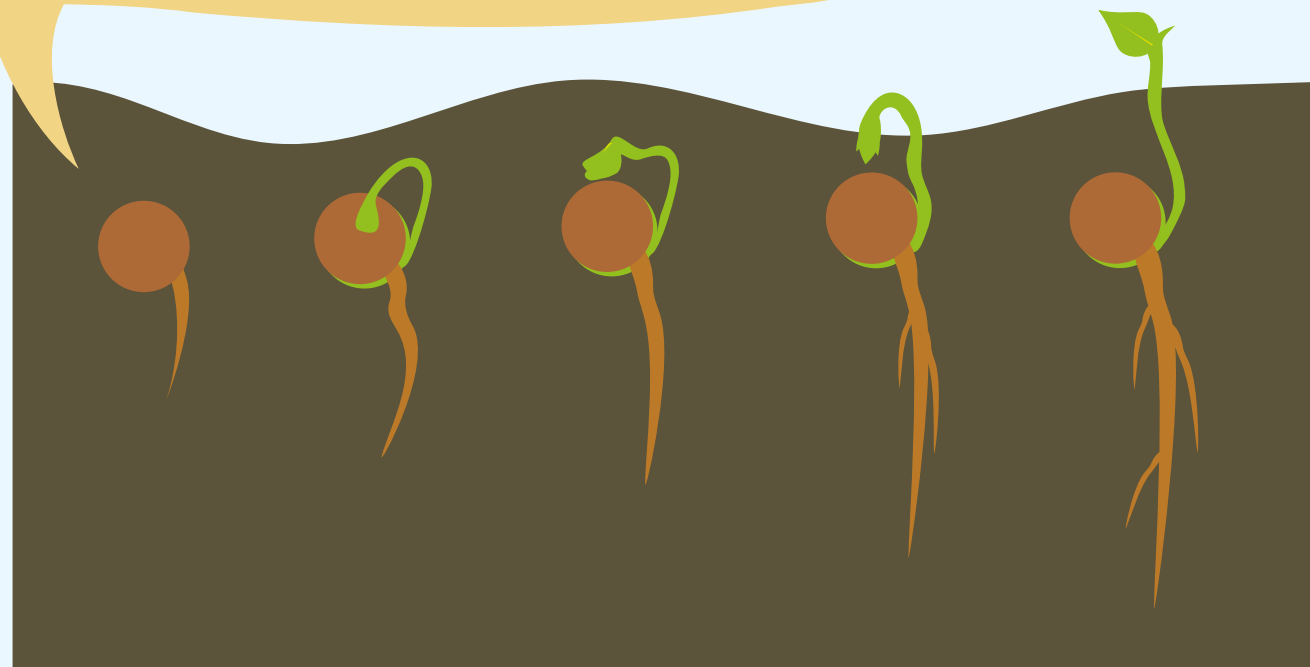
worms at work



NATURE IN THE SCHOOLYARD

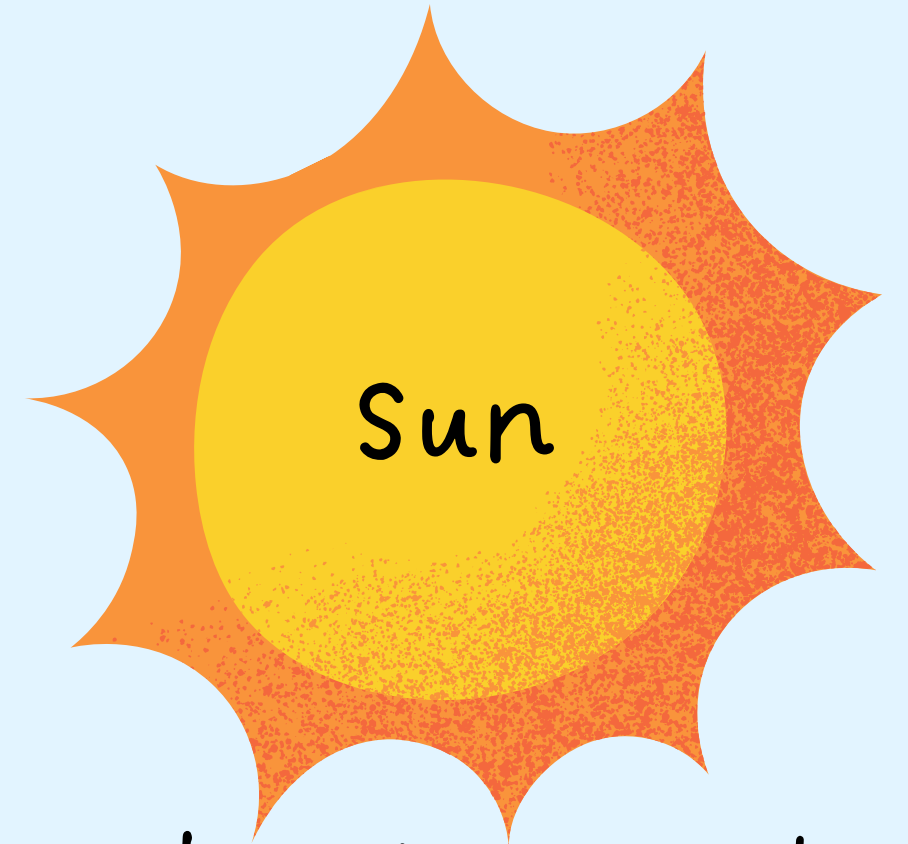
Seed, root, sprout

To sprout and continue
to grow seeds need,
soil, nutrients, water
and sunshine



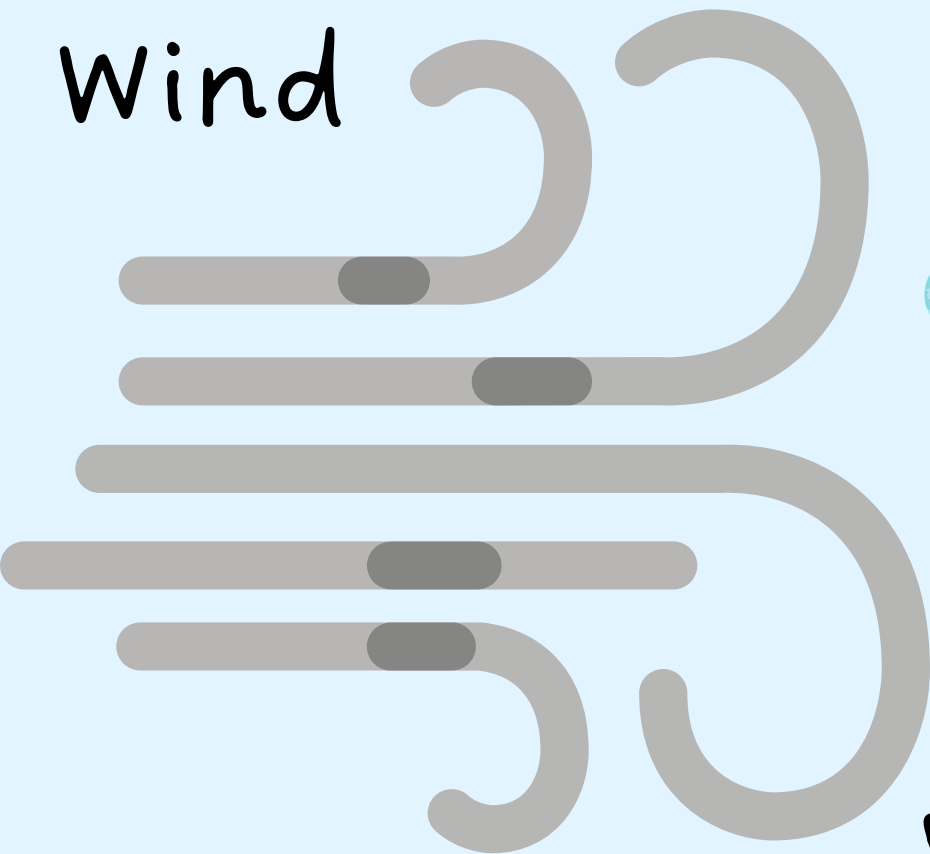
What can you find?!

NATURE IN THE SCHOOLYARD



The sky and weather are also part of our natural environment.

Wind



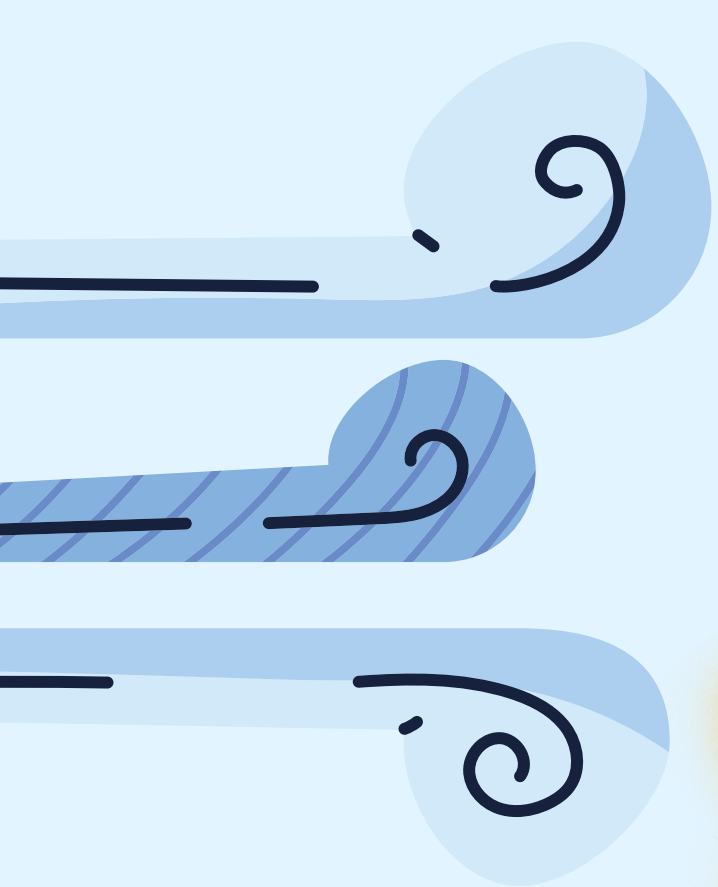
Clouds

Lightning

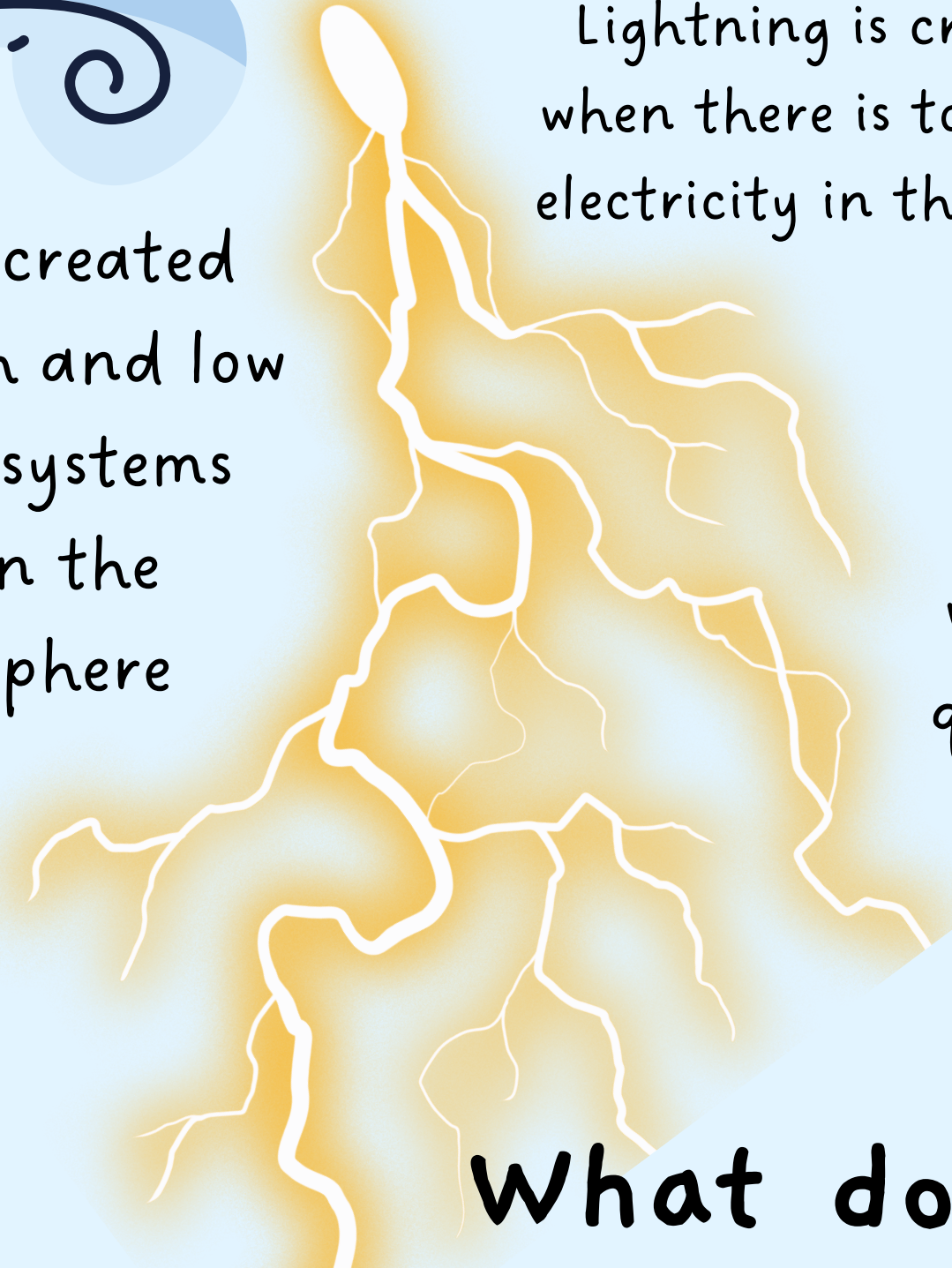


What do you see?!

NATURE IN THE SCHOOLYARD



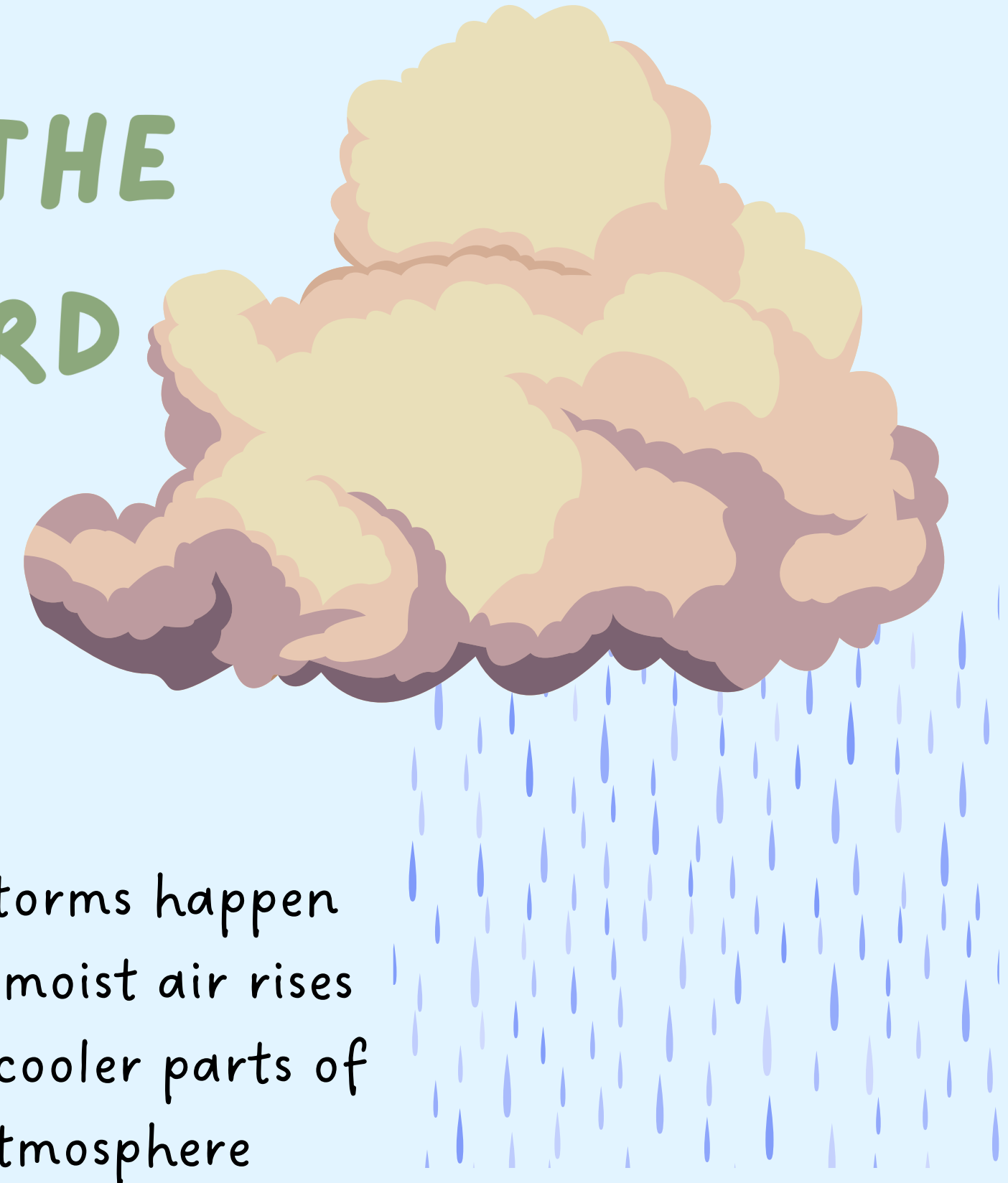
Wind is created
when high and low
pressure systems
meet in the
atmosphere



Lightning is created
when there is too much
electricity in the clouds

Thunderstorms happen
when hot, moist air rises
quickly to cooler parts of
the atmosphere

What do you see?!



Rain is created
when there is too much
water vapor in the air

NATURE IN THE SCHOOLYARD

Eastern Gray Squirrel

Description:

Gray body, brown markings, long bushy tail. They are about ten inches long and can live up to 12 years

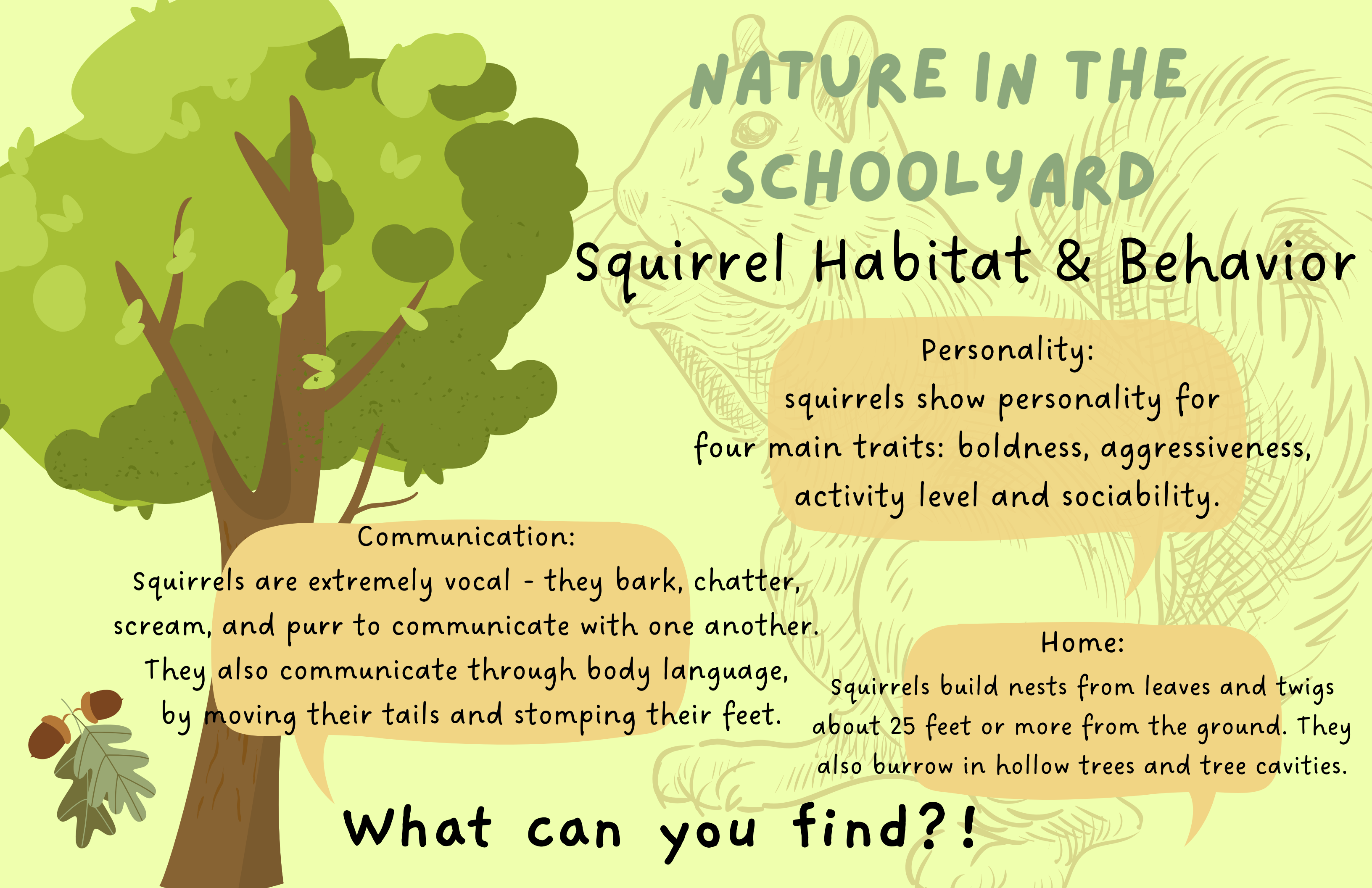
Where it lives:

From the Eastern United States to the Mississippi River and north into Canada

Food:

Gray Squirrels eat a mixture of seeds, nuts, cornfruit, fungi and bark





NATURE IN THE SCHOOLYARD

Squirrel Habitat & Behavior

Personality:

squirrels show personality for four main traits: boldness, aggressiveness, activity level and sociability.

Communication:

Squirrels are extremely vocal - they bark, chatter, scream, and purr to communicate with one another.

They also communicate through body language, by moving their tails and stomping their feet.

Home:

Squirrels build nests from leaves and twigs about 25 feet or more from the ground. They also burrow in hollow trees and tree cavities.

What can you find?!