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**Friends & Family**

5 Friends in (North Kingstown) see all



White Oak  
(NCWC)



Coyote  
(Advocacy for Animals)



Red Squirrel  
(Faculty of Life Sciences ELP)



Red tailed Hawk  
(Lawinczak)



Fellow Gray Squirrel  
(Lawinczak)

**Gray Squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*)**

Profile ▾

*"Nutty by nature"*

**Hometown:** North Kingstown, Rhode Island

**Home neighborhood:** Temperate deciduous forest

**Habitat:** I am most at home in mature woodlands, that include understory vegetation. My species is most numerous in forests containing oak and walnut trees. (Lawinczak)

**Niche:** I distribute seeds of the many plant species that I eat. When I store seeds for winter, I often forget where I hid some of them, allowing them to sprout and become new plants. (Univ. of Illinois) Unfortunately, I also serve as food for many predators including hawks, weasels, coyote, foxes, and the occasional hungry housecat. (Lawinczak)

**Family:** I suppose you could say that I'm related to everyone. I am related to a platypus because we both have hair and are considered mammals. I am more closely related to a flying squirrel because we are small mammals with two sets of continuously growing incisors that we keep in check by gnawing. I am most closely related to the red squirrel because we are both tree squirrels. (Lawinczak) Check it out in my photos!

**Friends:** **White Oak (*Quercus alba*)** and I have a love hate relationship. I eat its acorns but I leave enough scattered around that I am a help to its seed dispersal. (Univ. of Illinois)

**Coyote (*Canis latrans*)** is always trying to make me a meal. I stay alert and in the trees as often as possible to prevent us from meeting. (Lawinczak)

**Red Squirrel (*Sciurus vulgaris*)** is my close relative. We sometimes cohabitate an area but my species usually outcompetes them and pushes them out. (Faculty of Life Sciences ELP)

**Human impact on organisms:** Surprisingly, I am considered a game species in many states. In Mississippi, 2.5 million gray squirrels are hunted each year. (Lawinczak) I also suffer from habitat loss due to people cutting down forests to build houses and other buildings. I do, however, adapt well to suburban settings and I can live right amongst development. I am not considered threatened or endangered. (NCWC)

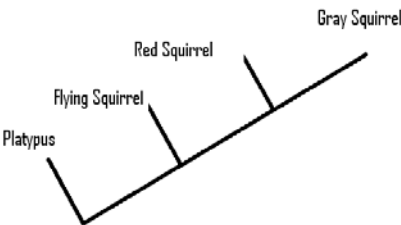
**Organism's impact on humans:** I am thought of as a nuisance by many people. My fellow gray squirrels and I have been known to eat crops, dig up lawns, raid bird feeders, and otherwise destroy property. (NCWC) In Great Britain listed my species as being the second most destructive animal. First was the Norway Rat. (Lawinczak) Despite all this, many people still like to watch me in their backyards because I'm so cute and cuddly.

**Audio/Song:** Check out the squirrel song I found at: <http://www.dltk-teach.com/rhymes/squirrel/mlyrics.htm>. Here are the lyrics:

Squirrel, squirrel shake your bushy tail!  
Squirrel, squirrel shake your bushy tail!

Wrinkle up your little nose,  
Hold a nut between your toes.

**Photos**



**The Family Tree**  
(Cladogram)



Other Colors  
(Lawinczak)



Keepin' Track  
(Lawinczak)

**Sources**

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"Red Squirrel and Grey Squirrel Ecology." *Faculty of Life Sciences ELP: E-Learning Projects*. Web. 19 May 2010. <[http://www.elp.manchester.ac.uk/pub\\_projects/2002/MNBF9ALS/lecture-15.htm](http://www.elp.manchester.ac.uk/pub_projects/2002/MNBF9ALS/lecture-15.htm)>.

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Today



Have you seen my acorn? I've been looking for it all day! –Gray Squirrel



YOUR acorn? What're YOU calling YOUR acorn???? I made that acorn buddy! –White Oak



Dude! That's so cool! We live on opposite sides of the world and we're related! –Platypus



There is no way we can be related to the platypus! How could we be related to something that still lays EGGS? That is sooooo 200 million years ago! –Red Squirrel



Watch your back! I'm hungry and looking for a bushy tailed little snack to munch on! -Coyote



What were you thinking when you accepted a friend request from a PREDATOR? Didn't your mother teach you online safety? –Red Squirrel