

Learning in the Leaves

Identification- *Apodemus sylvaticus* – Wood Mice



Photo: Wood mouse on bird feeder (by Nooti)

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Distinguishing Features

- The Wood Mouse, also known as the Long Tailed Field Mouse is probably the most common mammal in the UK.
- The fur on the back is brown in colour - dark along the spine and lighter on the sides.
- The belly and underside fur is a creamy-white.
- It has bulbous black eyes, and prominent ears.

Interesting Facts

- Wood mice are notoriously fast breeders. A female wood mouse can produce six litters of up to nine young every year. The young are fully weaned after 18 days.
- Wood mice generally live in an underground burrow, coming out at night to feed. Their movements are fast, and sometimes they jump, looking like tiny kangaroos. Underground, they build up a store of food for the winter. Although they don't hibernate, they do become less active during the winter.
- [information collated from the UK Safari Website: www.uksafari.com]