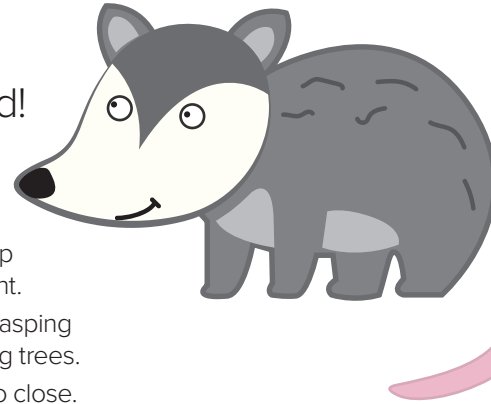


Believe it or not, opossums are a part of the natural world in New York City. You might see one in your own neighborhood!



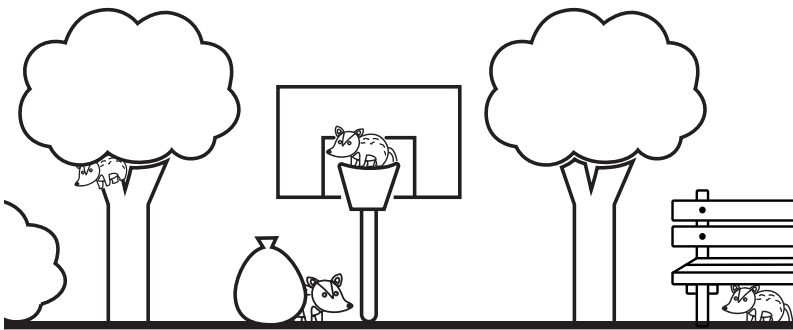
### Did you know?

- Opossums are omnivores and eat both plants and animals. Their diet can include grasses, leaves, seeds, and small animals such as beetles, grasshoppers, snails, or slugs.
- Yes, they play dead. If frightened, opossums will freeze and not move until the danger passes.
- Opossums are nocturnal. They sleep during the day and are active at night.
- The tail of an opossum is great at grasping items. They use it a lot while climbing trees.
- If you see an opossum, don't get too close. They will try to protect themselves and may scratch or bite.

### HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT

Opossums are shy creatures. They prefer to be out during the night when there are fewer people around. They may be out during the day, but will stay well hidden.

**Find all of the opossums living in this neighborhood.**



TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_

### ANIMAL TRACKS

Wildlife watchers love to look for animal tracks outside. You can learn a lot by following their footsteps.

**Match the animal to its tracks. Remember to look for their prints the next time you are outside.**



## FREE COLORING

Opossums are a type of marsupial. After being born, babies crawl into their mother's pouch. In the pouch they eat and stay safe. When they grow big enough to leave the pouch they stay close to mom – often riding on her back.

**Draw a few baby opossums for this mom to take care of.  
Include some food for them to eat.**

