

Welcome to Girl Scout Troop 1727's Animal Trail! This is post number 2/8.

Coyote (Canis Latrans)

Coyotes are native animals to Tega Cay. A coyote has grayish-brown to yellowish-brown fur on top with whitish fur in its armpits. They have large triangular ears on top of their heads and a long, narrow muzzle. Coyotes have black noses, yellow eyes, and long bushy tails. A coyote is a mammal just like us. Coyotes are predators but are also omnivores which means that they eat plants and meat. Their diets consist of raccoons, opossums, striped skunks, and red foxes. However, they are very flexible in their diets and will also eat things like berries if they have to.

When coyotes hunt, they sneak around their prey so that they are not heard by them and don't scare them away. Try to sneak around just like them!

Coyotes, like every other organism, play a very important role in our ecosystem. They are at the top of several food chains and play a key role in regulating the mesocarnivore populations. Coyotes live here in Tega Cay, but in 2016, the city of Tega Cay decided to set traps to try to control the population as they were growing rapidly in our area. The only problem with getting rid of the coyote is that removing them can be dangerous and send a ripple effect that hurts all populations in the ecosystem.

Fun facts:

-Coyotes are part wolf.

-Coyotes mate for life.

-Coyotes can reach speeds of 35-45 miles per hour.

-Coyotes make 11 different vocalization noises.

-Coyotes raise their young in couples or within a large pack.

