***Gray Squirrel***

***Colby Ridgley and Carter Myers***



***Biology 6th Period***

***5/12/17***

***Gray Squirrel***

1. **Scientific Name:** Sciurus carolinensis
2. **Range:**
   1. Eastern parts of the United States
   2. Southern parts of Canada
3. **Habitat:**
   1. Forests or wooded areas
   2. Dense underwood provides food and shelter
4. **Food**:
   1. Omnivores.
   2. Berries
   3. Acorn
   4. Walnuts other types of nuts
   5. Fungi such as fly agaric mushrooms
   6. Scatter hoarder (buries nuts and other food to consume later)

E) **15 behaviors unique to Gray Squirrel:**

1. Alert, aggressive predators
2. Store food for winter (nuts)
3. Can feed themselves in any season
4. Mating season Dec-Jan and Jun-Jul
5. Mating consists of chasing around. Female gives off scent to attract the male and usually a line of males are seen chasing one female with the most dominant being in the front
6. Hind legs are adapted for rotation which assists in movement and escaping from predators
7. Do not need to hibernate
8. They have incisor teeth that continuously grow and are sharpened by gnawing on bark, plastic or metal objects around them
9. They have been known to communicate through body language and various types of chattering and squeaks
10. One of only creatures that descend from trees head first
11. They are diurnal, more specifically crepuscular (most active early morning and evening)
12. Squirrels have an enhanced sense of smell that helps them find food and mark territories
13. Female squirrels give birth to two to five babies and cares for them alone for about 10 to 12 weeks, leaving them to fend for themselves soon afterward.
14. Squirrels are not endangered at all being the least concern. Their population is currently increasing.
15. Squirrels can learn from watching others which greatly assists them in survival. This along with their great physical adaptations, makes them great at survival.

F) **10 Fun Facts:**

1. Squirrels can find food buried under a foot of snow
2. Their nests are called dreys
3. Their front teeth never stop growing
4. Squirrels run in a zigzag pattern to escape predators
5. Their sweat glands are on their feet
6. Newborn squirrels are about an inch long
7. They can run around 20 miles per hour
8. They are the most common squirrel in America
9. Squirrels have been around for about 35 million years
10. Squirrels can jump 20 feet

First week: Research and plan

Second/Third week: Film, film film!

Last week: Edit and turn in on 5/12/17