

DEER MOUSE (*Peromyscus*) The deer mouse is a very common mouse that varies in length from 4-9 inches. It has only 16 teeth. Its tail is sharply bi-colored. The upper body fur varies from grayish-buff to reddish-brown and the belly fur is white. It eats seeds, berries, fruit and insects.



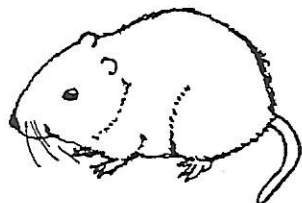
HOUSE MOUSE (*Mus*)

This imported rodent (not native to the Americas) is a carrier of disease. It ranges in size from 6-7 inches. It has short fur which is grayish brown. It also has 16 teeth, but the incisors are smooth. It eats most anything.



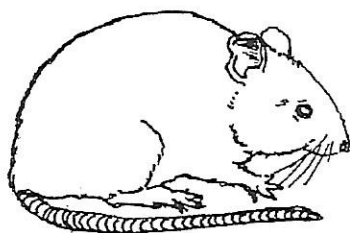
VOLE (*Microtus*)

This rodent differs from mice by their small ears, long fur hairs, and short tail. They are often called field or meadow mice. They are from 5-7 inches in length. There are 16 teeth which are rather large compared to those of the deer mouse. The upper incisors are not grooved. The teeth near the rear of the jaw are very large with flat surfaces for grinding. They are active day or night. They are good swimmers that live near streams, lakes, and swamps. They eat grasses, seeds, grain and bark. It is the most common animal skeleton found in owl pellets.



RAT (*Rattus*)

Rats are highly destructive rodents that carry a variety of diseases. The head and body of this animal may range from 7 to 10 inches in length. Its fur is grayish brown. The skull has 16 teeth. They eat grains, garbage, groceries and anything edible. Their skulls will be much larger than the mice in this study.



BIRDS

The bones of birds are quite different from the bones of mammals. The smaller conical beaks indicate seed-eaters the size of a sparrow. The back and pelvis consist of several fused bones. Breast bones have a high central ridge for the attachment of the flight muscles. The long bones of the leg and feet may be intact.

