

Name:

Date:

What's for Dinner?

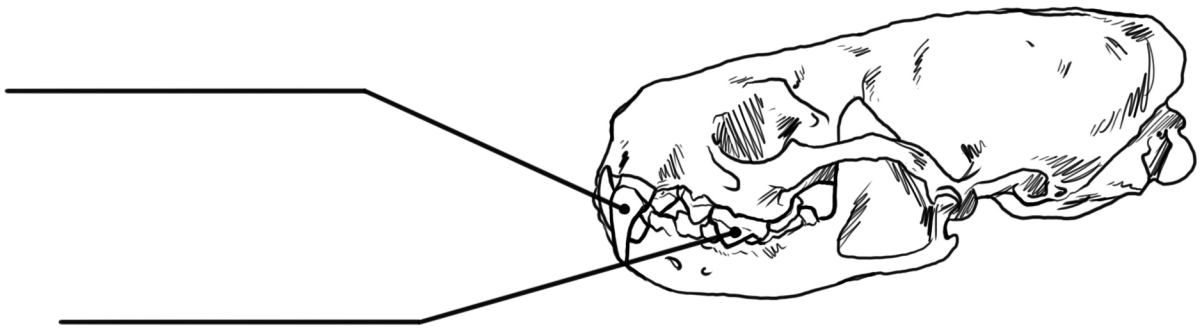
You can tell what an animal eats by looking at its teeth! Mammals can be divided into three groups based on the food they eat: **carnivores**, **herbivores**, and **omnivores**.

Carnivores eat mainly meat.

Carnivorous animals have four long fangs, called **canine teeth**, in the front. They use their canines to catch prey and deliver a deadly bite!

Carnivores have sharp, slicing teeth in the back called **carnassial teeth**. They use their carnassials like knives to cut meat into bite-sized pieces.

The incisors and molars of carnivores are small and reduced.

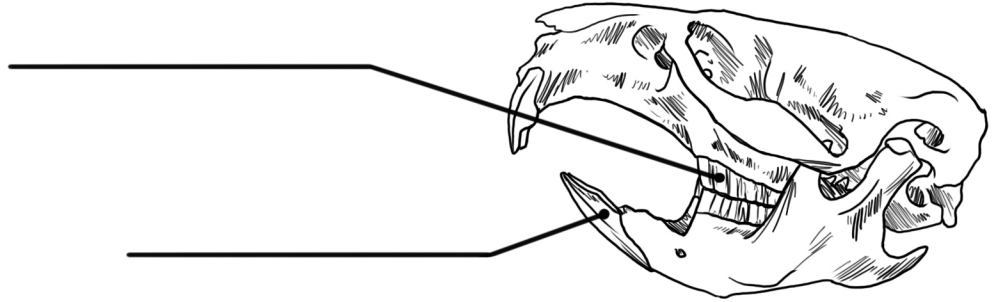


This is the skull of a mink, a small **carnivore**. Label the **canines** and **carnassials**.

What's your favorite **carnivorous** animal?
Why is it your favorite?

Herbivores eat mainly plants.

Herbivorous animals have large, blunt **incisor teeth** in the front. They use their incisors to cut and gnaw plants into pieces. Herbivores have wide, flat **molar teeth** in the back. They use their molars to grind up tough and chewy plant material. Some herbivores have canines, but they are usually small and aren't used for eating.

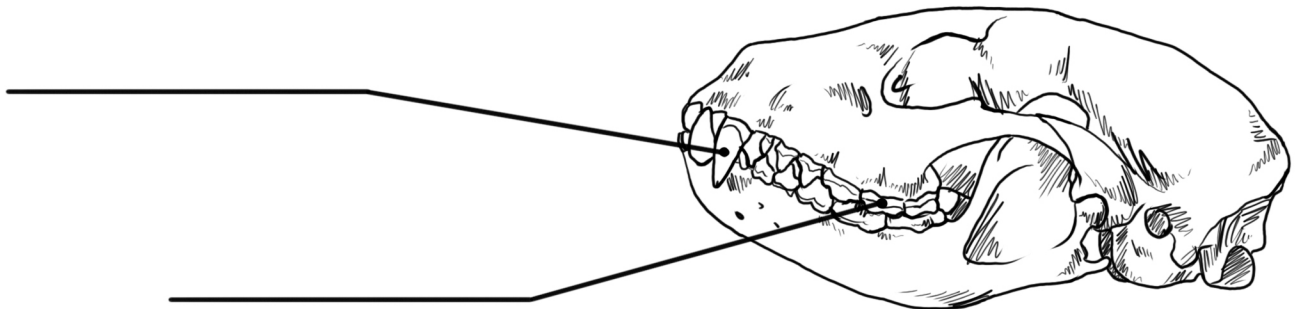


This is the skull of a muskrat, an **herbivore**.
Label the **incisors** and **molars**.

Name two more **herbivorous** animals and their favorite foods.

Omnivores eat both meat and plants.

Omnivorous animals may have both **canine teeth** for catching prey and large **molar teeth** for chewing up fibrous fruits and vegetables.



This is the skull of a raccoon, an **omnivore**.
Label the **canines** and **molars**.

Can you name two more **omnivorous** animals? List them below.

Match the mammals to their preferred meals!
Some meals have more than one match.

