



Ringies

Raccoons and ringtails





Raccoons

Raccoons are a medium sized mammal with a humped posture, black face mask and gray and black ringed tail. Their paws resemble human hands and feet with five toes, allowing great dexterity.

Raccoon litters average 4 cubs (or kits).



More about raccoons

Raccoons live in a variety of habitats—agricultural, forest, wetlands and city neighborhoods. They are omnivores eating insects, crayfish, crabs, mussels, turtles, birds and muskrat young, as well as nuts, seeds and berries. They are crepuscular and nocturnal, for the most part, but can be active during the day. They communicate with screams, hisses, growls, snarls, chatters, whimpers and purrs.

Ringtail cats

Ringtails are small mammals with black and white ringed tail, black ringed eyes in buffy patches, cat-like body and foxlike face with large oval ears. They have 40 teeth and semi-retractable paws. Litters range from 1 to 4. They are solitary, except during the mating season; mothers care for the young.



More about ringtails

Ringtails prefer rocky outcroppings in a variety of habitats ranging from semi-arid, chaparral, to forests. Ringtails are active mainly at night and dusk. They are good climbers and can maneuver by ricocheting. They are omnivores eating rodents, rabbits, squirrels, insects and plant matter. They make a variety of vocalizations including barks and chirps.

One way to tell ringtails from raccoons is that raccoons have a black mask, and ringtails have white spectacles around the eyes.

Finger ringies!

Raccoon black mask around the eyes
(rounded fingers around the eyes)

Ringtail cat white spectacles spies!



Singy Ringy to *I'm a Little Teapot*

I'm a small raccoon with
dexterous hands, (holding up
hand)

See my tail with gray and
black bands. (fingers spread
for stripes)

My ringtail friend has eyes
white rings, (hand rounded)

Eats insects, plants and animal
things. (pointing to mouth)



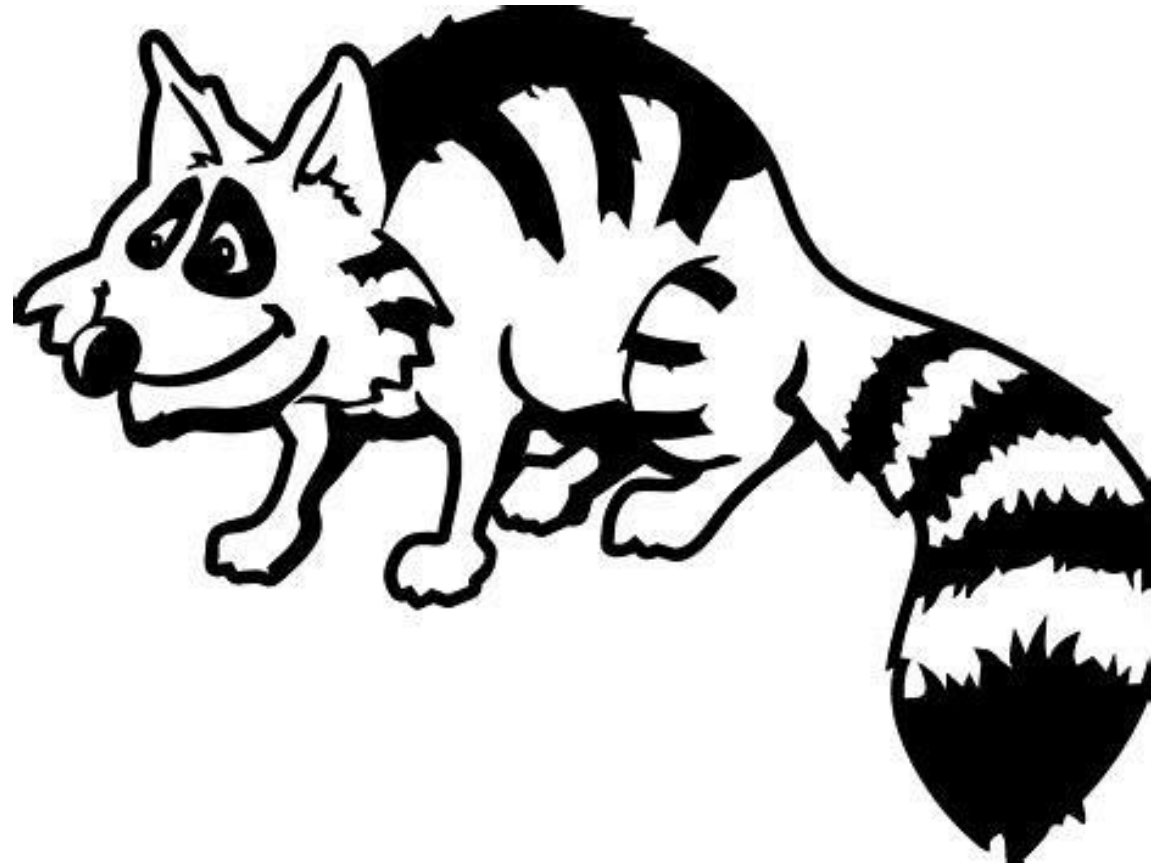


More ringies fun!

Take a walk through the park to find places a raccoon or ringtail might hang out.

Can you make a ringtail snack?

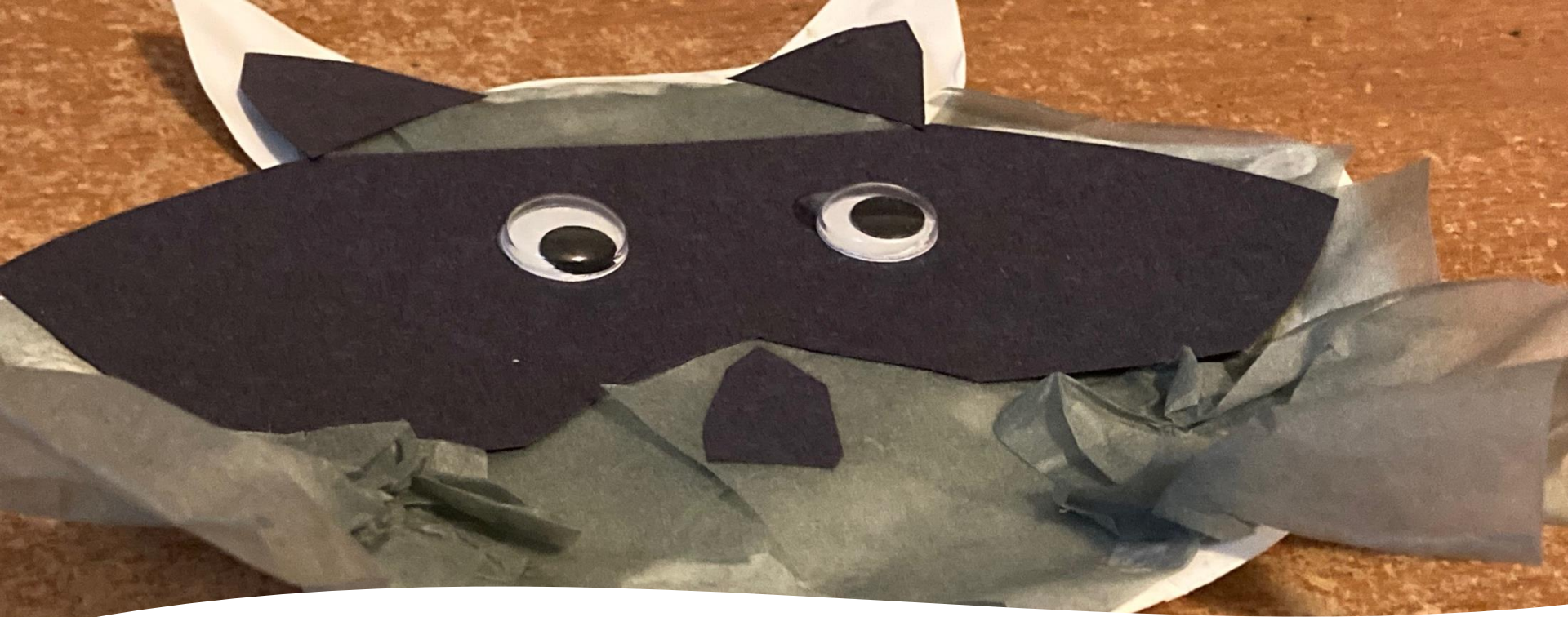
How do
you want
to design
your
raccoon?



Art for little hands

You can make a raccoon track in play dough.





Assemble your raccoon

- Plate for face with ears cut out
- Gray tissue paper
- Black paper for mask and ears
- Google eyes

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RACCOONS!