

Gray Fox

Gray Fox (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*)

Instant ID

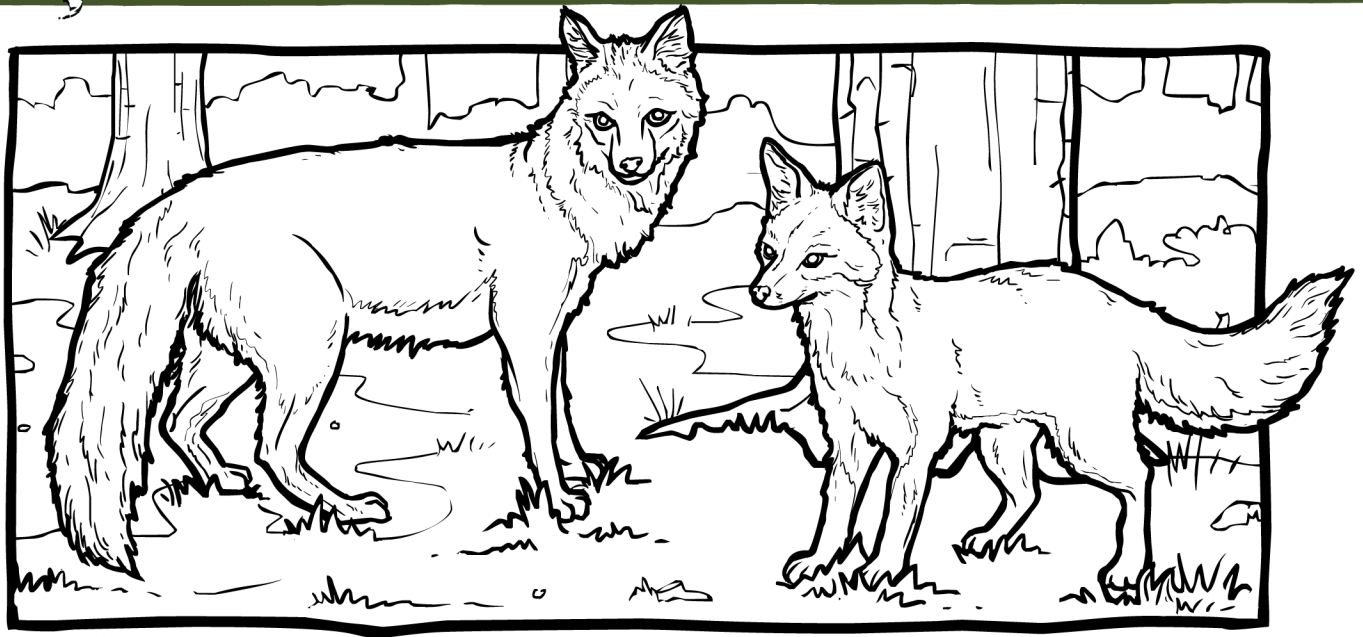
- A wild canine (member of the dog family)
- Gray fur mixed with orange patches and a white belly
- A black stripe runs the length of its bushy tail
- Long muzzle on an angular face

Native Niches

- Forested habitats throughout Florida, except the Florida Keys

Favorite Foods

- Omnivore (eats both plants and animals)
- Eats small mammals, birds, reptiles and large insects
- Eats fruit, nuts, grains and berries



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Critter Characteristics

- Often hunts and rests in trees
- The only member of the dog family to climb trees
- Florida's smallest wild canine
- Confused with the invasive red fox because of orange coloration on sides
- Has an odor similar to a skunk's spray, but does not use it for defense

Population Protection

- Red foxes can outcompete gray foxes where habitats overlap
- Feeding foxes is illegal in Florida
- Potential carrier of rabies and other diseases

