



# WOLVERINE

**Kingdom:** *Animalia* **Phylum:** *Chordata* **Class:** *Mammalia* **Order:** *Carnivora* **Family:** *Mustelidae*  
*Gulo gulo*

**Description:** The Wolverine is the largest and fiercest member of the weasel family

**Length:** 3 feet

**Weight:** 20-30 pounds

**Habitat:** Forest areas

**Distribution:** The Arctic, sub-Arctic and taiga regions of Eurasia and North America

**Diet:** Other mammals and some berries

**Life Span:** 13 years

**Status:** Stable but declining

## Special Characteristics:

- The Wolverine is known for attacking any prey that it happens to meet.
- It is strong enough to drag an animal more than three times its weight.
- The wolverine warns other by discharging musk, a strong-smelling fluid from its anal glands.
- A good tree climber, it will often rest in the trees
- Since it has a large range, the Wolverine will have several nest sites.
- As a hunter, it does not stalk its prey but lays in wait hiding behind trees and rocks.
- Many times the Wolverine will let another predator kill the prey and then take it for itself.
- The Eskimos prize the fur of the Wolverine because it does not absorb moisture and freeze.
- They have large feet that support them on the soft snow.

## Reproduction:

- Sexual maturity at 1-2 years
- Gestation is 9 months including a period of delayed implantation
- Litter size up to 4 kittens
- The female has 1 litter every 2-3 years.
- Kittens are weaned at 8-10 weeks.

