



TRACKS IN WINTER

When it snows, all the invisible comings and goings of your neighbors—both animals and humans—suddenly appear. With a little detective work, you can figure out a lot from these clues. Check out the footprints in your neighborhood to see what stories they tell. What if there's no snow? You can still follow tracks in mud or sand.

Date _____ **Time** _____

Location _____

Weather _____

Helpful Things to Take Along:

✓ **Ruler**

✓ **Field guides such as:**

"Mammal Tracks and Scat"

by Lynn Levine

"Wild Tracks!" by Jim Arnosky

1. When you find some tracks, draw them here. Some things to look for:

- Shape of the track
- Size (use a ruler to measure it)
- Number of toes
- Claw marks or none
- Kind of animal (use a field guide to see if you can identify it)

2. Follow one of the sets of tracks. Where does it go? Can you guess what the animal was doing? On the back of this page, draw a map of where the tracks go and add notes about what you notice.