

## Class: Mammalia

### *Sorex* : Shrew

#### **Classification :**

Phylum .....Chordata  
Subphylum .....Vertebrata  
Superclass ..... Gnathostomata  
Class .....Mammalia  
Sub-class .....Theria  
Infraclass ..... Eutheria  
Order .....Insectivora  
Genus ..... *Sorex*

#### **Geographical distribution :**

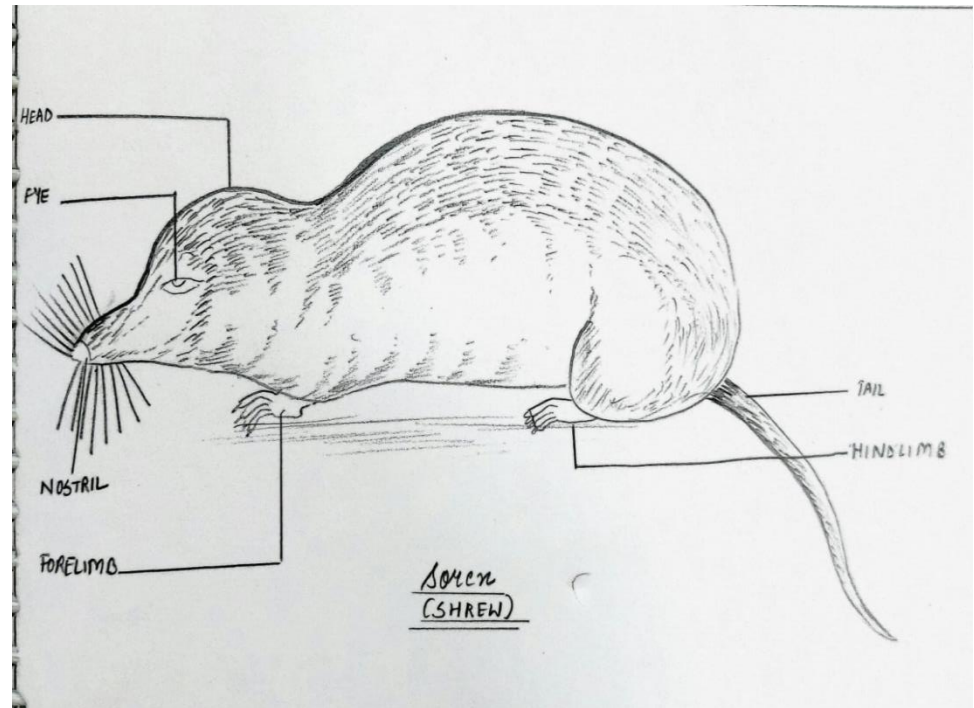
*Sorex* is found throughout the world.

#### **Habit and habitat :**

It lives in burrows feeding voraciously on insects, small invertebrates  
and  
some rodents.

## Comments :

- Commonly called as shrew.
- Entire body is covered with short and soft steel-grey fur (pelage).
- Body divided into head, trunk, abdomen and tail. Head contains snout, eyes and vibrissae or moustaches.
- Snout is elongated and contains several moustaches.
- Eyes are small, rudimentary and not covered. Pinnae absent.
- Elongated tail and mammary gland



# *Cynopterus* : Indian Fruit Bat

## **Classification :**

Phylum ..... Chordata  
Subphylum ..... Vertebrata  
Superclass ..... Gnathostomata  
Class ..... Mammalia  
Sub-class ..... Theria  
Infraclass ..... Eutheria  
Order ..... Chiroptera  
Genus ..... *Cynopterus*

## **Geographical distribution :**

Found in South Eastern Asia, especially in India.  
Pliocene to Recent.

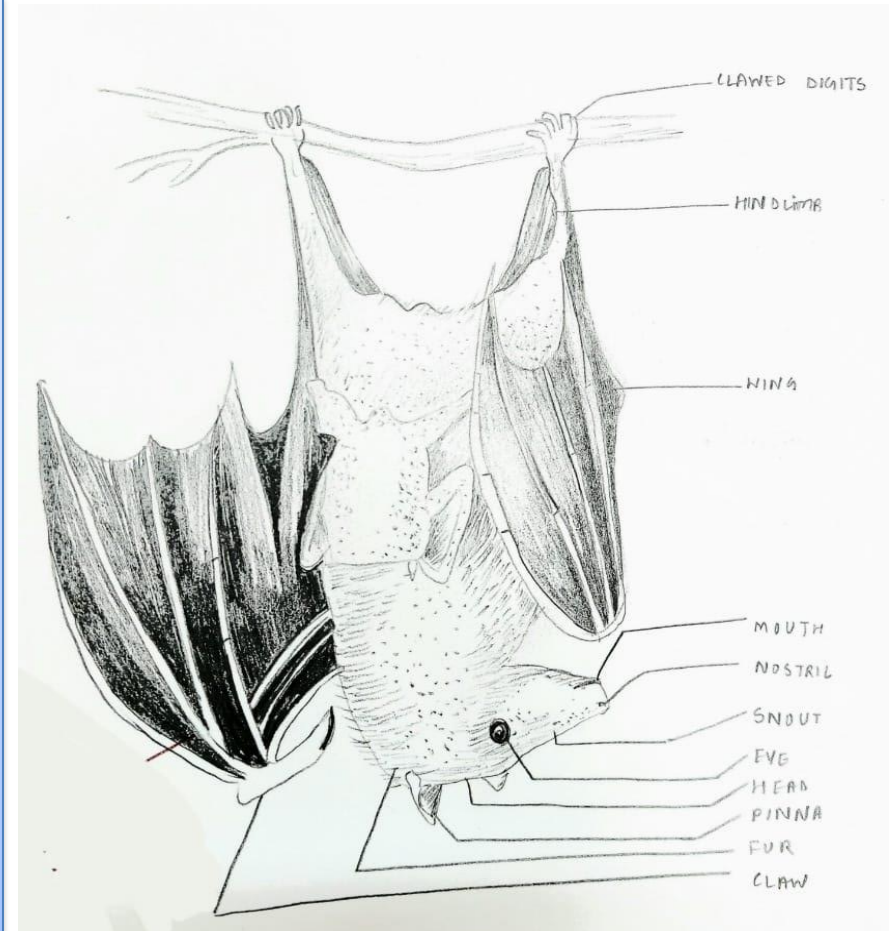
## **Habit and habitat :**

Adapted for arboreal and aerial mode of life. Live in groups and feed on fruits (frugivorous) and often damage orchards. They sleep by day on tree branches.



## Comments :

- Commonly called Fruit bat or Flying fox and in Hindi Chamgadar.
- Body is dark-brown coloured and shoulders are golden yellow. Body divisible into head, neck, trunk and tail and patagium.
- It is capable of true flight. The forelimbs are modified into wings.
- Each wing formed by a fold of skin or patagium supported by elongated forelimb and 2nd to 5th fingers. Only 1st and 2nd fingers bear claws.
- Hind limbs and tail also included in patagium. Before patagium is prepatagium. Hind feet small with sharp and curved claws. Tail small and stumpy.
- Head small having small external ears, large eyes, snout and small teeth.



# *Loris*

## **Classification :**

Phylum ..... Chordata  
Subphylum ..... Vertebrata  
Superclass ..... Gnathostomata  
Class ..... Mammalia  
Sub-class ..... Theria  
Infraclass ..... Eutheria  
Order ..... Primates  
Genus ..... *Loris*

## **Geographical distribution :**

These are found outside Madagascar and Pliocene to Recent.

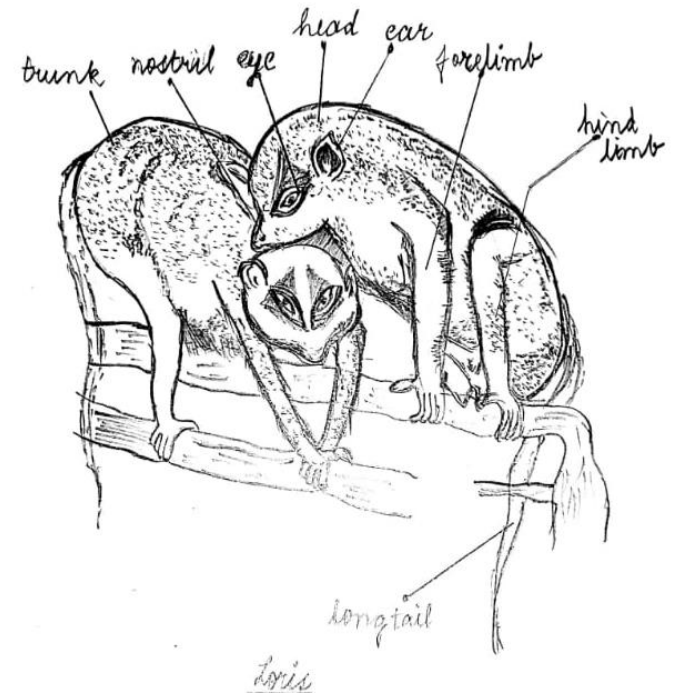
## **Habit and habitat :**

*Loris* is solitary, nocturnal and arboreal primate.



## Comments :

- Body is covered with brownish fur with silver look. Fur is thick and woolly.
- Body divided into head, trunk, abdomen and tail. Head contains snout, nostril, large eyes and ear.
- Teeth thecodont and heterodont.
- Tail long but not prehensile.
- Head small and produced into snout.
- Eyes are closely placed. They are very distinct and bulging. Orbit is forwardly directed.
- External ear or pinna is conical.
- Nostrils in the form of small apertures.





# *Erinaceus* : Hedgehog

## **Classification :**

Phylum ..... Chordata  
Subphylum ..... Vertebrata  
Superclass ..... Gnathostomata  
Class ..... Mammalia  
Sub-class ..... Theria  
Infraclass ..... Eutheria  
Order ..... Insectivora  
Genus ..... *Erinaceus* (Hedgehog)

## **Geographical distribution :**

*Erinaceus* is found in Cretaceous to Recent. northern hemisphere, West Indies, Africa and India.

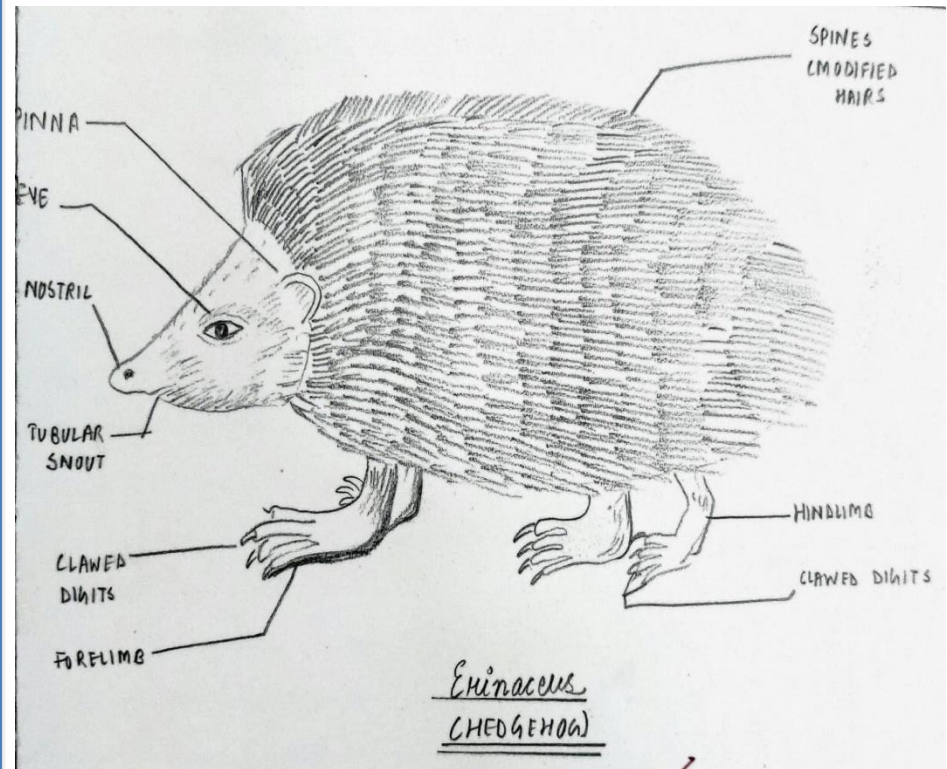
## **Habit and habitat :**

It inhabits holes and bushes during day and it comes out during night to feed. It is omnivorous, feeding on fruits, roots, insects, slugs and other small animals. Hedgehog hibernates during winter. When alarmed or disturbed, it has the habit of rolling its body like a spiny rounded ball.



## Comments :

- Animal characterized by the presence of sharp backwardly directed spines on dorsal side, while ventral side has soft fur.
- Eyes small. Pinnae and legs short. No marsupial bone or pouch. Number of ribs 14-15.
- Mouth small bearing 36 sharp pointed teeth.
- Vagina single, foetus develops within uterus of female, attached by a placenta
- Hind and forelimbs short.
- A muscle band is found over neck and sides to move spines.
- Head conical and produced into a small snout bearing nostrils at the tip.
- Commonly called as hedgehog.





# *Funambulus* : Squirrel

Phylum ..... Chordata  
Subphylum ..... Vertebrata  
Superclass ..... Gnathostomata  
Class ..... Mammalia  
Sub-class ..... Theria  
Infraclass ..... Eutheria  
Order ..... Rodentia  
Genus.....*Funambulus*

## **Geographical distribution :**

*Funambulus* has world-wide distribution. It is found on all continents and islands.

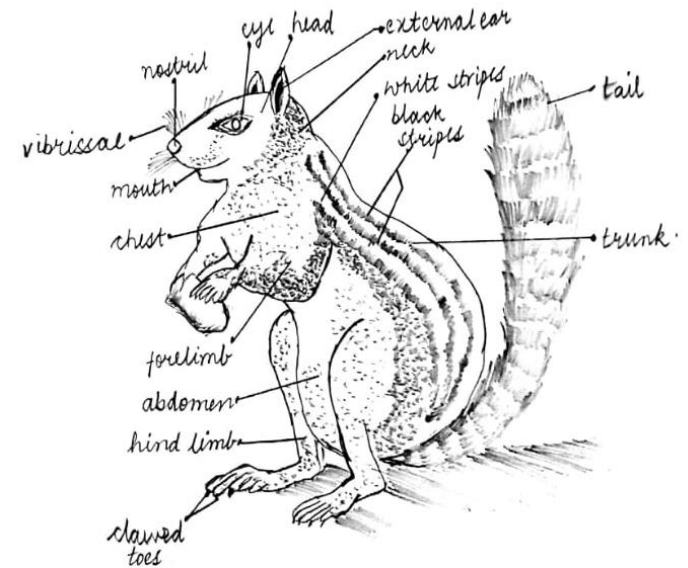
## **Habit and habitat :**

It lives on trees, ground and is fast runner. It feeds on fruits and seeds. It builds nest of twigs and leaves. It is diurnal.



## Comment:

- Commonly called as squirrel and in Hindi Gilahari. Ventral side and limbs covered by small grey hairs.
- Head contains snout with moustaches nostrils, large eyes and well developed pinnae.
- Forelimbs and hind limbs well developed with clawed toes. Tail elongated and bushy.
- Incisors exposed chisel-like, rootless, grow continuously, gap between incisors and cheek teeth, canine absent and upper and lower cheek teeth about equal size. Palate narrow. Elbow joint rotates.
- Squirrel is also used for experimental purposes. It is largely used in cancerous studies.
- Squirrel destroys fruit crops.



*Funambulus*; Squirrel

# *Herpestes* : Mongoose

## Classification :

Phylum ..... Chordata  
Subphylum ..... Vertebrata  
Superclass ..... Gnathostomata  
Class ..... Mammalia  
Sub-class ..... Theria  
Infraclass ..... Eutheria  
Order ..... Carnivora  
Genus ..... *Herpestes*

## Geographical distribution :

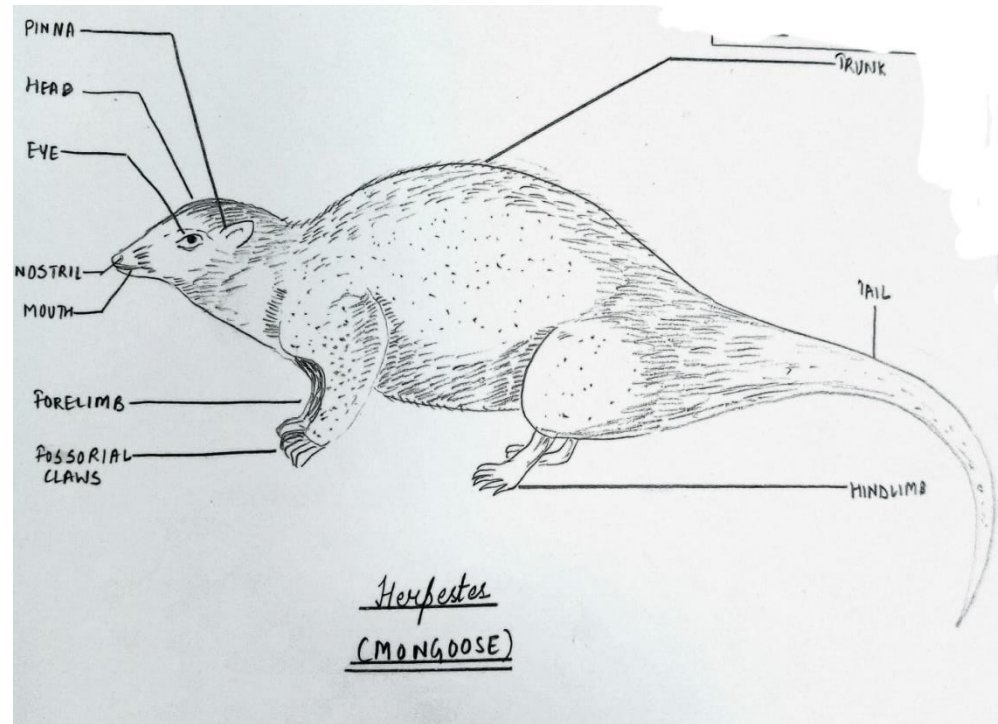
Abundantly found in Asian and African countries. Eocene to Recent.

**Habit and habitat :** It is a burrowing mammal. It is nocturnal and feeds on small mammals, reptiles, birds and eggs.



## Comments :

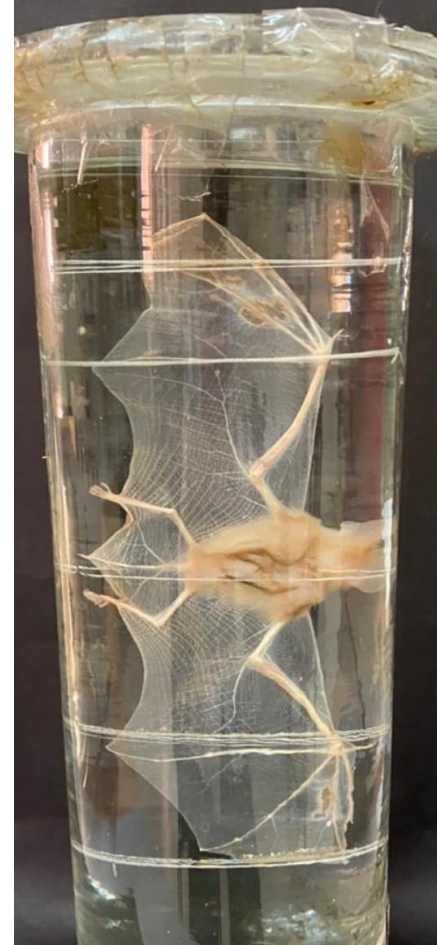
- Commonly called as mongoose in English and Neola in Hindi.
- It is a small and highly modified carnivore.
- Entire body is covered with greyish fur.
- Body divided into head, neck, trunk, chest, abdomen and tail.
- It has long skull, small brain and short legs.
- Head contains small snout, ears, small eyes, and nose.
- Tail is elongated and bushy.
- Forelimbs and hind limbs have 5 digits with fuscorial claws.



# Bat

Phylum ..... Chordata  
Subphylum .....Vertebrata  
Superclass ..... Gnathostomata  
Class .....Mammalia  
Sub-class .....Theria  
Infraclass .....Eutheria  
Order ..... Chiroptera  
Type.....Bat

Geographical distribution : Bats are cosmopolitan





### Characters:

- It is small in size and the body is covered with soft fur.
- Snout is short with or without nose leaf.
- Pinna are large and often provided with flags.
- Eyes are small and vision is weak as the rods cells are poorly developed.
- Insectivorous .
- Nocturnal inhabit.
- They produce ultrasonic sound waves.

