

Profie Dog's Hideouol

by Dee Phillips

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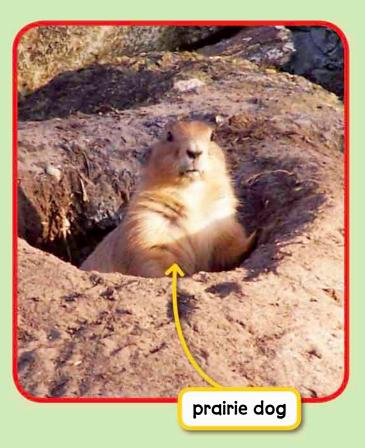
A Prairie Dog Town

It is early morning in a little town.

There are no houses, though—just small mounds of dirt.

Suddenly, a prairie dog pops its head out of a hole in one of the mounds.

The hole is the entrance to the little animal's underground home.







dinal.

Prairie dogs dig underground homes, in which they sleep, raise their babies, and stay safe from enemies.

prairie dog

mound

5

Check Out a Prairie Dog!

Prairie dogs are a type of **squirrel**.

There are five kinds of prairie dogs.

Black-tailed prairie dogs are the most common kind.

They dig their underground towns on open, grassy lands called **prairies**.



Where black-tailed prairie dogs live

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An adult black-tailed prairie dog is about 14 inches (36 cm) long. It weighs about two pounds (907 g).

black-tailed prairie dog

Imagine you are talking to a friend who has never seen a prairie dog. Describe what the animal looks like.

babies 5, 8, 10, 18, 19, 20–21 digging 5, 6, 8, 18 entrance holes 4, 10–11, 22 families 8, 14, 20–21 food 12, 16, 18, 20 mating 18 milk 18, 20 mounds 4–5, 10–11 nests 18 noises 14–15 prairies 6 predators 5, 12–13, 14, 16, 22 rooms 8, 10–11, 18 squirrels 6 tunnels 10–11

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George, Lynn. Prairie Dogs: Tunnel Diggers (Animal Architects). New York: PowerKids Press (2011). Markle, Sandra. Prairie Dogs (Animal Prey). Minneapolis, MN: Lerner (2007).

Learn More Online

To learn more about prairie dogs, visit www.bearportpublishing.com/TheHoleTruth!



Answers to the activity on page 22

- Prairie Dog A should run to Hole 2.
- Hole 4 is closest to Prairie Dog B.
- Prairie Dog C should run to Hole 3.



Dee Phillips lives near the ocean on the southwest coast of England. She writes nonfiction and fiction books for children. Dee's biggest ambition is to one day walk the entire coast of Britain—it will take about ten months!



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Prairie Dog's Hideaway

Why would anyone build a whole town underground? Just follow the prairie dogs through this book to get lots of answers to that question. Along the way, you'll learn some amazing facts. For example, prairie dogs put mounds of dirt around the holes to their underground homes to keep water out when it rains. So get ready to take an inside look at the *Prairie Dog's Hideaway*.

Chipmunk's Hole





Prairie Dog's Hideaway







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