

## Who Came to Visit?

If you pay attention when you are walking around in a natural area, you may notice lots of signs that wildlife has visited where you are standing. For example, you might see animal footprints, which are called tracks.

There are 4 types of track patterns:

1. Zig-Zaggers: usually have long legs. Their back print lands on or next to the front print.

*Examples: Elk, deer, moose, dogs that are walking, coyote, humans*



2. Leapers & Hoppers: have bigger back legs than front legs. Front feet land first, then back feet land in front.

*Examples: rabbits, hares, squirrels, voles*



3. Bounders: Have long bodies and all legs are the same size

*Examples: weasels, ferrets*



4. Waddlers: usually slow and drag their bellies/tails when they walk. They have short legs.

*Examples: beaver, porcupine, skunk*



We have collected some picture of animal tracks for you. You will have to be a Nature Investigator and put your knowledge of animals that live in or around Calgary to match the pictures of the tracks to the list of possible animal visitors.

Possible Animal Visitors

Blue jay



Bear



Hare



Mule deer



Skunk



Bobcat





What do I observe about these tracks? (Circle one)

- Small or big?
- Claws or no claws?
- Toes or no toes?
- BONUS: What kind of track pattern do I see? \_\_\_\_\_

I think that a \_\_\_\_\_  
left these tracks because...



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### Specific Learner Outcomes

- ✓ Science Inquiry – Focus
  - identify one or more possible answers to questions by stating predictions or hypotheses
- ✓ Science Inquiry – Reflect & Interpret
  - state an inference, based on observations
  - identify applications of what was learned
  - identify new questions that arise from investigation
- ✓ Attitudes
  - curiosity
  - confidence in personal ability to explore materials and learn by direct study
  - a sense of responsibility for personal and group actions
  - respect for living things and environments, and commitment for their care.