



Terrestrial Mammals of Hong Kong

My Green Pledge: Appreciate Nature

Green Tips - Dec 2020

Most people will think of macaques and wild pigs when we mention mammals in Hong Kong. However, some beautiful creatures actually lurk in this highly developed city as well. They are just shy and used to avoiding humans, so they can only be seen by chance!



Photo credit: Instagram/@lungfushan

The only squirrel family in Hong Kong – Pallas's Squirrel 赤腹松鼠

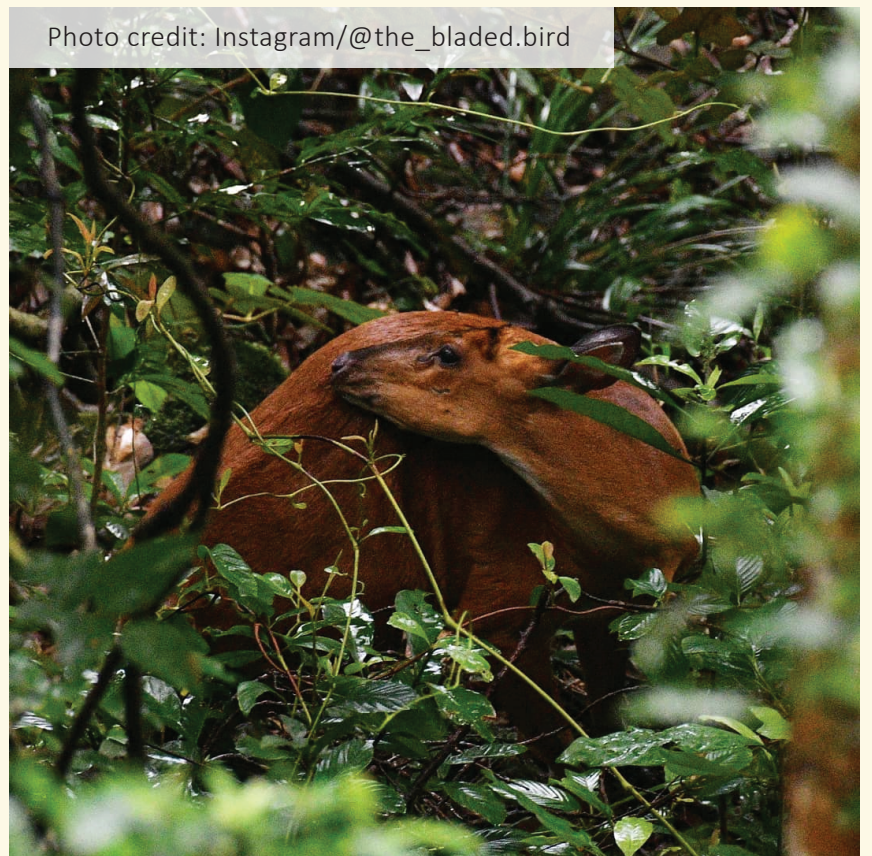
Pallas's Squirrels are an introduced species. They are active during the day and forage at dawn and dusk. Their incisors grow continuously, so they need to gnaw to keep them from growing too long.

Characteristics: Brown backs and reddish-orange belly.

Read more:

- Tips for Observing Terrestrial Mammals
觀察陸上哺乳動物應注意的事情 - Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
- 香港的哺乳動物 - The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

Photo credit: Instagram/@the_bladed.bird



The deer that 'barks' – Red Muntjac / Barking Deer 赤麂

Red Muntjacs produce a distinctive dog-like barking call when disturbed. Even though they are herbivores, they have a pair of long canines to protect themselves.

Characteristics: Reddish-brown coat and black markings on their faces. Males have a pair of short curving antlers which are shed and regrown each year.

References:

- Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department – Biodiversity Working Groups. *Hong Kong Ecomap*. 2005. Friends of the Country Parks and Cosmos Book Ltd.
- Lung Fu Shan Environmental Education Centre. *Exploring Lung Fu Shan: A Nature Guide*. 2014. Hong Kong University Press.