Raccoon \( (Procyon lotor) \)

Instant ID
- A medium-sized masked mammal with a brown coloration
- Bushy tail with black rings
- Tail is roughly 1/3 the length of the body

Native Niches
- Present in most of North America excluding high Rockies, extreme desert and arctic regions
- Found in all Florida habitats, including urban and suburban

Favorite Foods
- Omnivore (eats both plants and animals)
- Very adaptable, feeds on anything edible found in its habitat
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Critter Characteristics
- Mainland Florida population has longer legs than those found further north
- Florida Keys population is smaller and has lighter masks
- Has an arched back and lopping step when moving
- Contrary to a common name, wash bear, they do not always wash their food before eating

Population Protection
- Readily adapt to living near human habitation
- Sealing attics, sheds and other storage areas can prevent raccoons from becoming a nuisance
- Improperly disposing of garbage and feeding pets outside will attract raccoons

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