

The Everywhere Canine

Coyotes are canines—members of the dog family. They are related to wolves, jackals, and domestic dogs. Coyotes can breed with both domestic dogs and wolves. A dog-coyote mix is called a “coydog.”

Coyotes are among the most adaptable animals in the world. They are found throughout North America from eastern Alaska to New England and south through Mexico to Panama. They are able to survive in almost any habitat. They will change their diet, breeding habits, and behavior in order to survive.

Coyotes are opportunistic predators. They mostly eat mice, rabbits, squirrels, and other small rodents. However, they will eat insects, reptiles, amphibians, garbage, fruits and berries of wild plants, and even domestic livestock or pets. Coyotes usually hunt alone to catch small prey, but group together to hunt larger mammals. Alone, in pairs or in packs, coyotes maintain their territories by marking them with urine. Coyotes are very vocal. They are often heard howling or yipping at night.

