

Mice



- **Mice in the Taylor County Area**

Family Muridae: Mice

House Mouse (*Mus musculus*)

White-footed Mouse (*Peromyscus leucopus*)

Deer Mouse (*Peromyscus maniculatus*)

Family Zapodidae: Jumping Mice

Woodland Jumping Mouse (*Napaeozapus insignis*)

Meadow Jumping Mouse (*Zapus hudsonius*)

- There are two kinds of jumping mice in the Taylor County area. View the video on this web site of the Jumping mouse. (Woodland and Meadow Jumping Mice) Watch the Jumping Mouse eat raspberries.
- The tale of the city mouse and the country mouse communicates an important idea about the animal kingdom. Animals adapt to environments and respond best when placed in their natural habitats. The tale involves personification. Puppets can be used to retell it. With this story as a beginning, research can be done to learn about the varieties of domestic and wild mice and the environments that best support specific needs.
- Mice have been pests, pets, and polluters. A puppet can be used to give information about their place in the ecological niche, in research laboratories, as pets, and as disease carrying rodents that need to be controlled.
- Use a mouse puppet with the fable of the “Lion and the Mouse” to convey the idea that small individuals can make a big difference.

- Examine figures of speech using mouse or mice. Have a puppet tell about them.

Mousey person

Quiet as a mouse

- Use the mouse puppet along with other alphabet puppets.
- Design stages that represent environments of various types of mice. Have the puppets compare and contrast their food, water, shelter, and space needs.
- Have the puppet teach related vocabulary words such as rodent, house mouse, harvest mouse and jumping mouse.