

# Japanese squirrel

Nihon Risu

## Scientific name

Sciurus lis

## Classification

Rodentia, Sciuridae

## Distribution

Japan (Honshu, Shikoku, Awajishima)

## Feeding Habits

It is arboreal and eats nuts, tree buds, fruits, mushrooms and insects in the wild.

## Characteristics

The hair on the back is reddish brown in summer, changes grayish brown in winter and tufts become to grow at the tips of ears. The abdomen hair is white throughout the year. The tail is about 17 cm.

## Behavior and ecology

This species is endemic to Japan. The large tail has various roles such as communication between other individuals and the role of balance when moving from a tree to a tree. It has a strong jaw that breaks the hard shell of walnuts. It has a habit of storing food such as nuts by burying it in the soil or hiding it in the gaps between trees.

