

## Tube Sock Black-footed Ferret!

It's time to get cuddly! Using your knowledge on BFFs and reference photos, create your own black-footed ferret (BFF) stuffy to have and to hold!



### Supplies:

- Tube Sock(s)
- Newspaper
- Cotton balls
- Tissue paper
- Sticks
- Small rocks
- Buttons
- Glue
- Scrap fabric
- Markers or paint

### Instructions:

1. Using what you know about BFFs, create your own Black-Footed ferret stuffy! Get crafty with unexpected things in your house; this ferret was colored by rolling it in used coffee grounds!
2. If you have the matching sock try making a tube sock prairie dog or maybe a BFF sock puppet!



## Learn More About BFFs!

Black-footed ferrets (BFFs), are the only ferret species native to North America who also lives in Fort Collins' backyard, on the Shortgrass Prairie. They are one of the most endangered mammals in North America and are protected under the Endangered Species Act. In 1979 the species was considered extinct, but in 1981 they were rediscovered in Meeteetse, Wyoming. A captive breeding program was started to save this iconic species from the brink of extinction.

Today, with the help of many partners, the BFF is on the road to recovery! FCMoD

is a proud partner helping BFF recovery efforts with two live BFFs on display.



The Shortgrass prairie ecosystem is full of biodiversity even if it may look like a sea of grass without much life. Many animals make their homes there including burrowing owls, bull snakes, woodhouse toads, pronghorn, swift foxes, ferruginous hawks, jack rabbits, reptiles, insects, box turtles and prairie dogs. Prairie dogs are the key stone species that supports the many animals in this ecosystem, especially the BFF. Over 90% of the BFFs diet is prairie dog. They use prairie dog burrows as their home for shelter from weather and predators, spending their whole lives there.

Read and learn more about black-footed ferrets and the shortgrass prairie ecosystem at

<https://blackfootedferret.org/> and follow BFFs at the National Black-footed Ferret Conservation Center's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/FerretCenter/>