

On Scaredy Squirrel  
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Scaredy Squirrel never leaves his nut tree. He'd rather stay in his tree than risk venturing out into the very scary world.

A few things Scaredy is afraid of:

- Tarantulas.
- Poison ivy.
- Green Martians.
- Killer bees.
- Germs.
- Sharks.

Advantages for Scaredy of never leaving the nut tree:

- Good view (visible while scanning the area with binoculars looking for tarantulas, et al.)
- Plentiful supply of nuts.
- It's pretty safe if you keep the scanning up.

Disadvantages of never leaving the tree:

- Same old place.
- Same old nuts.
- Same old view.
- Scaredy is still basically scared, but then again, it could be worse.

Scaredy's Daily Routine:

6:45 a.m. Wake up.

7:00 a.m. Eat a nut.

7:15 a.m. Scan the view.

10:00 a.m. Eat a nut

10:30 a.m. Scan the view.

12:00 noon. Eat a nut.

12:30 p.m. Scan the view.

2:30 p.m. Eat a nut.

3:00 p.m. Scan the view

5:30 p.m. Eat a nut.

6:00 p.m. Scan the view.

6:45 p.m. Eat a nut.

7:30 p.m. Scan the view.

9:30 p.m. Eat a nut

10:00 p.m. Go to bed.

One day at 9:59 a.m., reaching for a nut, Scaredy Squirrel fell out of the tree. As he was falling, something incredible happened--instead of dropping straight to the ground he glided through the air. Scaredy Squirrel discovered that he is no ordinary squirrel. He's a flying squirrel! He sailed and swooped and soared, he was free and unafraid. He forgot all about the tarantulas and killer bees and sharks. When Scaredy finally landed gently on the ground, he was so happy. But then he got scared again. What to do? Play dead. And Scaredy did that for two hours under some shrubs, and then quickly returned to his nut tree. Safe (sort of) in his nut tree, Scaredy remembered how great it was to be a flying squirrel. He was inspired to make drastic changes in his life.

Scaredy's New-And-Improved Daily Routine:

6:45 a.m. Wake up.

7:00 a.m. Eat a nut.

7:15 a.m. Scan the view.

9:59 a.m. Sail into the air, soar and glide.

10:07 a.m. Land on the ground, play dead.

12:07 p.m. Return to the tree.

12:09 p.m. Eat a nut.

12:30 p.m. Scan the view.

2:30 p.m. Eat a nut.

3:00 p.m. Scan the view

5:30 p.m. Eat a nut.

6:00 p.m. Scan the view.

6:45 p.m. Eat a nut.

7:30 p.m. Scan the view.

9:30 p.m. Eat a nut

10:00 p.m. Go to bed.

Adapted from Mélanie Watt, *Scaredy Squirrel*, children's picture book (Tonawanda, NY, 2006).

