

THE JERSEY DEVIL

For more than 200 years, New Jersey residents have told tales of The Jersey Devil, a weird monster that lives in the rural pine forests in the southern part of the state.



There are lots of different legends about The Jersey Devil. One of the most famous ones says it was a woman named Deborah Leeds' 13th baby. Though it was born a healthy baby boy, as it grew it began to take a strange shape, growing horns like a goat, wings like a bat, and hooves like a horse. One day, it flew off into the woods.

In the 1700s and 1800s, people often claimed to see it and hear it. Scary wailing sounds were heard coming from deep within the pines late at night, and when livestock went missing, townsfolk would blame it on The Jersey Devil. The most famous sighting happened in 1909, when people all over town began seeing strange tracks in the snow. They were scared! Workers refused to go to their jobs, for fear of coming face to face with the Devil on the way to work. Gangs of brave men and women got together and tried to find the thing that made the tracks, but their dogs refused to follow them. Then, eyewitnesses began to come forward—people claimed a weird, winged animal attacked their pets, a trolley car full of folks, and a group of friends leaving a club.

While there haven't been as many sightings since, sightings continue to this day, and whenever weird things happen in South Jersey, people will say it was The Jersey Devil.

The Jersey Devil has a very specific appearance: Wings, horns, red glowing eyes, feathers, and hooves. Draw a picture of it below.

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for drawing the Jersey Devil as described in the text above.