

INDIAN/NATIVE AMERICAN ANIMAL SPIRIT

Animal Spirit

What is Animal Spirit? An Animal Spirit is strongly associated with the Native American Indian belief in Animism that is a belief based on the spiritual idea that the universe, & all natural objects within the universe, have souls or spirits. An animal spirit is believed to be a supernatural power that embodies, attaches or conveys influence empowering a person with the trait of the animal. The animal spirit is also regarded as a guide who might appear in dreams in the form of an animal. An animal spirit, or spirit guide, walks through life with a person, teaching & guiding them, & in some instances protecting them. Also refer to Power Animals.

Animal Spirit - Spiritual Energy

An animal spirit is the spiritual energy of the animal on earth. The animal spirit is greater than the actual animal because it embodies the essence of that animal spirit itself. For instance with a wolf spirit, it is the voice of all the wolves that have ever lived. It is the Medicine Wolf. It is the wolf that can see itself & speak. A spirit animal will often appear to the Medicine Man, or Shaman, as a vision during a Vision Quest & has adopted his own guardian spirit animal & teacher.

Tribal Animal Spirit

Each Native American tribe has a group of Spirit Animals that are most prevalent among its people refer to Tribe Totems. The spirit animals of a tribe usually live in the area inhabited by the tribe & have great medicine power. These tribal spirit animals are important in the life of the tribe, as guides to sources of food & other essential items or as guides to the changing seasons.

What is my Animal Spirit?

Many people ask the question "What is my Animal Spirit?" An animal spirit is identified by a strong feeling of connection to a particular animal. An animal spirit becomes apparent in everyday life when you are drawn to an animal for no apparent reason or a series of coincidences bring the same animal into your life. An Animal spirit might often reveal themselves to us through our subconscious during sleep & meditation. Every animal spirit has a special meaning & certain qualities that might help you in various stages of your life. An animal spirit that appears in a dream also has meaning.

Animal Spirit Meanings & Significance

Each animal spirit has a special meaning, characteristic & significance. Shamans believe visions & dreams come from the Animal spirits, & they interpret signs & dreams. The following chart details the meanings of the different forms of animal spirit & an interpretation of dreams that feature an animal spirit.

Animal Spirit Examples: Armadillo, Badger, Bat, Beaver, Bear, Butterfly, Coyote, Crow, Deer, Dog, Eagle, Elk, Falcon, Frog, Hawk, Horse, Hummingbird, Lizard, Moose, Mouse, Otter, Owl, Porcupine, Raven, Snake, Turtle & Wolf.

Individual Animal Spirit Information

Armadillo: Keeper of the Home. Methodical, accurate, slow & steady

If you dream of an armadillo Animal Spirit, it may signify that you are isolating yourself & making it difficult for others to reach you. It might also mean that you need to be a little more aggressive & independent.

Badger: Guardian of the South. Bold, out-going, good communicator

To dream of a badger Animal Spirit means your persistence & final victory over your opponents. The dream might also be a pun on badgering & aggravating others.

Bat: Guardian of the Night. Death & Rebirth

To dream of a bat Animal Spirit symbolizes the annoyances in your life. Bats also represents your need to let go of old habits for your current way of life no longer suits your new growth & outlook.

Beaver: Guardian of the Family. Creative & Artistic ability, builder, resourcefulness, & determination

To dream of a beaver Animal Spirit building a dam symbolizes ambition & that hard work is necessary to achieve your own goals. It is time to put your ideas into action & settle any differences with fellow co-workers & friends.

Bear: Meaning of Bear Guardian of the West. Strength, Solitude, Motherhood & Teaching
Meaning of Bear

To dream that you are being pursued or attacked by a bear Animal Spirit indicates aggression, overwhelming obstacles & competition. You may find yourself in a threatening situation.

Alternatively, bears symbolize the cycle of life & death & renewal. It may signal of period of introspection & thinking.

Butterfly: Guardian of Change. The Butterfly represents transformation & the ability to accept change

To dream of a butterfly Animal Spirit indicates your need to settle down. Butterflies also mean creativity, romance, joy & spirituality. You may be undergoing a transformation into a new way of thinking.

Coyote: Hunter of the West. The Coyote helps you recognize your own mistakes, Stealth, Clowning & Humor

Seeing a coyote Animal Spirit in your dream means deception & weakness.

Crow: Keeper of the Sacred Law. The Crow helps you to find individual balance living in the present, release past beliefs. Represents Skill & Cunning

Seeing a crow Animal Spirit in your dream, represents your annoying habits & the darker part of your character. The crow may serve as messengers from your unconscious.

Deer: Custodian of Gratitude. The Deer represents Spiritual Healing, Gentleness, kindness & compassion

Seeing a deer Animal Spirit in your dream, symbolizes grace, gentleness, & natural beauty. It has feminine qualities & may point to the feminine aspect within yourself.

Dog: Guardian of Loyalty & symbolizes Guidance, Loyalty & trust

Seeing a dog Animal Spirit in your dream, indicates a skill that you have ignored or forgotten, but needs to be activated. Your own values & intentions will enable you to go forward in the world & succeed. If the dog is vicious &/or growling, then it means some inner conflict within yourself.

Eagle: The Guardian of the Skies. The Eagle symbolizes great Strength, courage Leadership & Prestige

Seeing an eagle Animal Spirit in your dream, symbolizes nobility, pride, fierceness, freedom, superiority, courage, & powerful intellectual ability. Eagles also indicate self-renewal. You will struggle fiercely & courageously to realize your highest ambitions & greatest desires.

Elk: Guardian of Bravery. The Elk Animal Spirit symbolizes Bravery, agility & independence

Seeing an elk Animal Spirit in your dream, symbolizes strength & endurance. It is an indication that you need to spend more time with friends & eat healthier.

Falcon: Keeper of Harmony. The Falcon - Soul Healing, Speed & Movement

Seeing a falcon Animal Spirit in your dreams, foretells that your success will make you an object

of jealousy. To dream that you are hunting a falcon, forewarns that you are in danger of ruining your business reputation by being too aggressive & bringing harm to others.

Frog: Bringer of News. The Frog symbolizes Spring & New Life, Sensitivity, Communicator, & Stability

Seeing a frog Animal Spirit in your dream, represents a potential to change or to do the unexpected. Seeing frogs leaping in your dream, may indicate your lack of commitment. You have the tendency to jump from one thing to another. Alternatively, it may suggest that you are taking major steps toward some goal.

Hawk: The Hawk is a Messenger & symbolizes Guardianship, Strength, Far Sighted
Seeing a hawk Animal Spirit in your dream indicates suspicions are lurking around you & your activities. You need to proceed with caution.

Horse: Keeper of Partnerships. The Horse represents Energy, Power, Message carrier, communicates with other realms
Seeing a herd of wild horse Animal Spirits in your dream means a sense of freedom & lack of responsibilities. It might also indicated your uncontrolled emotions. To dream that you are riding a horse indicates that you will achieve success through underhanded means.

Hummingbird: Guardian of Time. The Hummingbird symbolizes Love, Beauty, Intelligence, Spirit Messenger & Stopper of Time
Seeing hummingbird Animal Spirits in your dream, suggests that small ideas/concepts may possess much potential & power. Alternatively, it indicates your flighty thoughts & frivolous ideas. It may be a metaphor for your inability to commit to a relationship.

Lizard: The Guardian of Hope. The Lizard Animal Spirit symbolizes Awareness, Conservation, subconscious hopes & fears
The lizard Animal Spirit can be representative of a person who you view as cold-blooded, fearful, or thick-skinned. On a more positive note, the lizard also symbolizes emerging creativity, renewal, & revitalization. It might also suggest that you are well-grounded.

Moose: Bringer of Long Life. The Moose symbolizes the Headstrong, Balance & Longevity
Seeing a moose Animal Spirit in your dream, represents long life & longevity. It may refer to the elders around you. Alternatively, a moose might also indicate that you can be both powerful & gentle.

Mouse: Guardian of Diligence. The Mouse possesses Observant qualities & diligence
Seeing a mouse Animal Spirit in your dream indicates fear, meekness, & a lack of assertiveness. You possess feelings of inadequacy & not measuring up. Alternatively, it may symbolize minor irritations & annoyances.

Otter: Keeper of Laughter. The Otter represents Feminine Power, Playful, Trusting, Inquisitive, Bright, Loyal & Speedy
Seeing otter Animal Spirits in your dream, symbolizes happiness & good fortune. You will find ideal enjoyment or unusual tenderness with your loved one.

Owl: Protector of the Home. The Owl symbolizes Wisdom, silent & swift, ability to see things normally, a creature of the night
Seeing an owl Animal Spirit in your dream, symbolizes wisdom, insight & virtue. The owl is also synonymous with death & darkness. Death in this sense might also represent a symbolic death, as in an important transition in life.

Porcupine: Power of Faith symbolizing Safety & Protection

Seeing a porcupine Animal Spirit in your dream suggests that you need to look out for yourself & protect yourself from emotional or psychological harm. Alternatively, it indicates that there is a situation which you need to approach with openness. Someone in your waking life may not be revealing their vulnerability.

Raven: The Healer. The Raven represents Creation & Knowledge - Bringer of the Light
Seeing a raven Animal Spirit in your dream, symbolizes betrayal, disharmony & misfortune

Snake: Power of Transformation. The Snake symbolizes Rebirth, Resurrection & Initiation
Seeing a snake Animal Spirit or be bitten by one in your dream means hidden fears & worries that are threatening you. Your dream may be alerting you to something in your waking life that you are not aware of or that has not yet surfaced. As a positive symbol, snakes represent transformation, knowledge & wisdom.

Turtle: Guardian of Mother Earth. The Turtle Animal Spirit symbolizes Self-Reliance, Tenacity, & Slow Progress

Seeing a turtle Animal Spirit in your dream, suggests that you will make slow but steady progress. You need to slow down & pace yourself. Alternatively, it indicates that you are sheltering yourself from the realities of life.

Wolf Animal Spirit Guide: The Pathfinder. The Wolf symbolizes Intelligence & Leadership
Seeing a wolf Animal Spirit in your dream, symbolizes beauty, solitude, mystery, self-confidence & pride. You are able to keep your composure in a variety of social situations & can blend in with any situation with ease & grace. You are a loner by choice. Negatively, it represents hostility & aggression. It might also reflect an uncontrollable force or situation in your life.