

Green Kids Activity

SPRINGTIME NEARBY-NATURE SCAVENGER HUNT!



Photo: Zurijeta / shutterstock.com

35 THINGS TO FIND IN NATURE

We share our communities with many amazing animals and plants – from bees to trees. Sometimes we can see our wild neighbours and other times we can only see evidence that they have been there. Go on a nature scavenger hunt to look for wildlife and different signs of nature in your neighbourhood! Remember too that when in nearby nature, it is best to take only pictures and leave only footprints.

What You'll Need:

- magnifying glass
- nature notebook for sketching what you see or a camera for taking pictures
- optional - field guides for identifying what you see; binoculars if you have them

What To Do:

Dress for the weather! Being in nature is more fun when you are comfortable. Brainstorm some ideas of what you think you might see, touch, smell and hear. Use the following list as a guide to explore your nearby nature! Add or change as many as you wish! Record what you find in your nature notebook – describe or draw! Or take a photo to remember something you've seen. You can even record sounds on your parents' phone.

- Red leaf
- Flower bud
- Rotting stick
- Nest
- Berries
- Animal tracks
- Bird feather
- Flying insect
- Three different kinds of seeds
- Butterfly
- Worm
- Something you think is a treasure
- Pine cone
- Bone
- Something sticky
- A bird's song
- A chattering squirrel
- Something with spots
- A frog's croak
- Two kinds of bark
- A grassy smell
- Dandelion flower
- Something that is changing back into soil
- A rock that sparkles
- Moss
- Nibbled leaf
- A plant that is taller than you
- A dead branch on a living tree
- A plant that is growing on a non-living thing
- Something that the wind would toss
- Flying insect
- A plant that smells nice
- A tree with flat needles
- Animal hair
- Something smooth and cold

To Think About And Wonder:

How would your findings vary during different times of the year? Some creatures are mobile and may only be in your region or visible during certain seasons. Do trees and plants look the same throughout the year? How do they change?

The Exploration Club for Families... NatureKids BC helps children get outdoors to play, imagine and explore in nearby nature. We are a network of volunteer-led nature clubs serving urban and rural children ages 5-12 and their families. Find out more at: www.naturekidsbc.ca. If you are already a member you can use this activity as part of your Action Awards Quest!

