

MAKING OBSERVATIONS

An important part of being a Naturalist is making observations of the world around you. A great place to get started on your journey is with Nature Journaling, or drawing and writing about what you see in nature.

HEAD OUTSIDE

Spend a few minutes observing a natural object (plant, animal, rock, leaf). Then describe it using drawings and written notes.

If you're stumped, ask yourself:

- What do you notice about your piece of nature?
- What do you wonder about your piece of nature?
- What does your piece of nature remind you of?

CREATE YOUR FIRST JOURNAL ENTRY HERE

Key Parts to include in each entry in your Nature Journal

- date observed
- time observed
- location of observation
- drawings
- descriptions

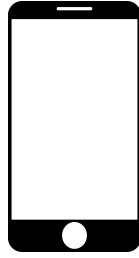
Use Your Senses

While you're outside, try to use some of your other senses to describe what can you hear, smell, and feel.



- Make sure to note
- where and when
- you observed your
- piece of nature.
- _____
- _____

iNATURALIST



While you're outside exploring, try using the app iNaturalist to help you to identify what you find and share your observations with more scientists.

Using your photos, drawings, and notes from your Nature Journal, use iNaturalist to record at least 5 animals and/or plants that you've observed.

iNaturalist Help

Check out the iNaturalist website - <https://www.inaturalist.org/> and The Wild Center's video introduction to the amazing app.

WHAT DID YOU FIND?

NOTE

You can still record observations about your environment in your own Nature Journal and use Field Guides to help you to identify what you find, if you don't have access to the iNaturalist app.

iNATURALIST PROJECTS

Projects in iNaturalist let you work together with other citizen scientists to share your observations about plants and animals in your community. To find and explore a list of iNaturalist Projects, open the iNaturalist app and select "More" at the bottom right of the screen. Are there any projects in your area that you want to join? If not, think of a project you could start. What are you interested in exploring or observing?

Write down a project you want to join or an idea for your own project below:

