

Junior Naturalists

Outdoor U At-Home
Summer Camps
Summer 2020

Name:

Welcome to Junior Naturalists At-Home Camp!

Objectives

- Learn how to think and explore like a naturalist.
- Observe the world around you by using your senses.
- Use a journal to record observations and questions.
- View nature in your neighborhood in a new way.
- Respect, observe, and wonder about the world!

What is a Naturalist?

A *naturalist* is an outdoor scientist!

- They record things they find in their nature journals.
- They look closely at plants, animals, and other things in nature to try to understand them better.
- Watch the “Junior Naturalist Introduction” video in the “Welcome to Junior Naturalist” topic on Flipgrid to learn more!

Camp Overview

We will use our senses to explore nature like a naturalist!

- Monday - Sight
- Tuesday - Hearing
- Wednesday - Touch
- Thursday - Smell
- Friday - Whole body

Packet Key

Look for these in your packet!



Ask for a grownup's permission first!



If you want, you can cut along the line and put the worksheet in your nature journal.



Bonus activity!


Things to Know Before Camp

Materials You May Need

- Art supplies (crayons, markers)
- Scissors
- Glue or tape
- Containers
- String or yarn
- 2 cardboard toilet paper tubes
- Things from nature (sticks, leaves, rocks, etc.)
- Small Paper Bags
- Creativity!

If you do not have some of these things, do not worry! Be creative or ask us a question about it on Flipgrid.

Flipgrid

- Ask a grownup to help you find instructions for setting up Flipgrid in an email. 
- Each day, there will be an introduction video to watch before you start the activities.
- There will also be introduction and reflection questions on Flipgrid for you to answer each day.
- If you have a question, leave it in the “I Have A Question!” topic on Flipgrid and staff will answer it as soon as possible!

What to do the Weekend Before Camp

- Watch the “Introduction Video” on Flipgrid
- Complete your Nature Explorer Profile on page 5 in this packet!
- Post your first response in the “Welcome to Junior Naturalist Camp” topic on Flipgrid. You can use your Nature Explorer profile to help you answer!

Things to Know for Camp


Activity Tips:

- You will find lots of activities in this packet. We recommend that you do at least 3 of the activities each day, or you can do 1, or all of them! It is up to you.
 - Once you do your activities, don't forget to nature journal, answer the reflection question on Flipgrid, and color in the daily badge!
-

Nature Journal

- Naturalists use their nature journals to record what they find in nature.
 - Each day, there are "Nature Journal Ideas". You can choose to do some, all, or none of these!
 - Find a "sit-spot" outside that you can go to every day. Remember to record the date, time, and weather every time you sit down to nature journal!
 - Watch the video on Flipgrid called "How to Nature Journal" in the "Nature Journaling" topic for more tips and tricks.
-

Naturalists of the Day

- Each day, there are two "Naturalists of the Day".
 - If you want to learn more about one, ask a grownup to go to the Camper Resources page on the Outdoor U website. 
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By the end of the week, you'll be an Official Junior Naturalist!

We hope you stay safe, have fun, and learn lots!

Junior Naturalist At-Home Camp



Nature Explorer Profile



Name: _____

Draw or print out a picture of yourself to go here!

Favorite Animal: _____

Favorite Type of Tree or Plant: _____

Favorite Thing to do Outside: _____

Favorite Place to Explore: _____

Favorite Sense to Use: _____

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Junior Naturalists At-Home Camp



Monday

Junior Naturalists Daily Options

Monday - Sight

Use this list of options as a guide to help you decide what you want to do during the day. You can do as many or as few as you want but remember, the more you do the more you learn!

- Watch the “Sight Introduction” video on Flipgrid.
- Answer the sight introduction question on Flipgrid.
- Watch the “How to Nature Journal” video on Flipgrid.
- Decorate your nature journal to make it your own! Be creative—use markers, colored pencils, crayons, stickers, or anything else you can find!
- Go to your “sit spot” and choose a few sight nature journal ideas to answer.
- Read about the “Naturalists of the Day.”
- Sight activity options—choose how many you would like to do!
 - * The Circle Frame
 - * Animal Signs are Everywhere
 - * Nature Color Scavenger Hunt
 - * Birdwatching with Binoculars
 - * Make Your Own Binoculars
 - * Observation List
 - * Bonus: Birding Lesson with Wolf Ridge
 - * Bonus: Animal Tracks
- Answer the sight reflection question on Flipgrid.
- You completed sight day! Color in the sight badge.

SIGHT

Hello Nature Explorers! Today you are going to focus on your sense of sight to observe nature. Naturalists observe, wonder, and explore nature by using their sight to look for birds in trees, to help them identify plants, or even to watch the sun as it rises and sets! The activities you will complete today and the rest of the week will help you to become a junior naturalist!

Nature Journal of the Day

Find a “sit spot” either inside your home near a window or outside near your home. Try to come to this spot every time you answer one of these ideas!

Take your nature journal to your “sit spot” and choose a few of the ideas to complete.

- While the sun is rising or setting, look at the sky. What are all of the colors that you see? Use your art supplies to draw these colors. Some people like to draw exactly what the sky looks like. Some people like to just put all of the colors onto the page. Either one is beautiful and you can choose which one you like! Helpful tip: sometimes the sun moves really fast, so you might like to take a picture!
- When you look around you, what colors stand out? Is the sky super blue today? Is there a bright flower nearby? Or can you see the gold rays of the sun on the grass? Write or draw these colors in your nature journal.
- Look at what is around you. How many trees can you count? Now, take a closer look at these trees. Do they look different from one another? Or, do they look very similar? In your nature journal write how many different types you see. Try to draw them!
- Do you have a favorite season? Whether it is summer, fall, winter, or spring each season has its own colors! What colors do you see when you think of your favorite season? Write or draw these in your nature journal.
- Look up at the sky and look at the clouds. Pick a few to watch float by. Draw these in your nature journal.
- A naturalist is a scientist who uses all of their senses to explore, observe, and wonder about nature. In your nature journal, draw what you think a naturalist looks like! Include how you think a naturalist uses their senses to explore, observe, and wonder about nature.

Naturalists of the Day - Sight

Name: Dara McAnulty

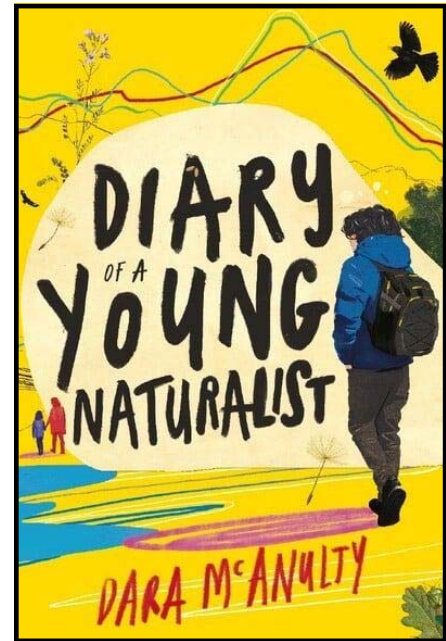
From: United Kingdom

Age: 16

What they like to study:

Hen Harriers

Fun facts: Dara wrote a book called “Diary of a Young Naturalist” and encourages those who have autism to be outside!



Name: Corina Newsome

From: Pennsylvania

What they like to study:

MacGillivray's Seaside sparrow

Fun fact: Corina is one of the founders of Black Birder's Week to show support for Black naturalists!



Go to the camp resource page on the Outdoor U website to explore more about Dara and Corina. Be sure to ask a grownup for help!

The Circle Frame

Things look different up close and far away. You are going to look at this through a circle frame.

Materials:

- Paper plate or some paper
- Scissors
- Circle Frame Worksheet
- Something to write with

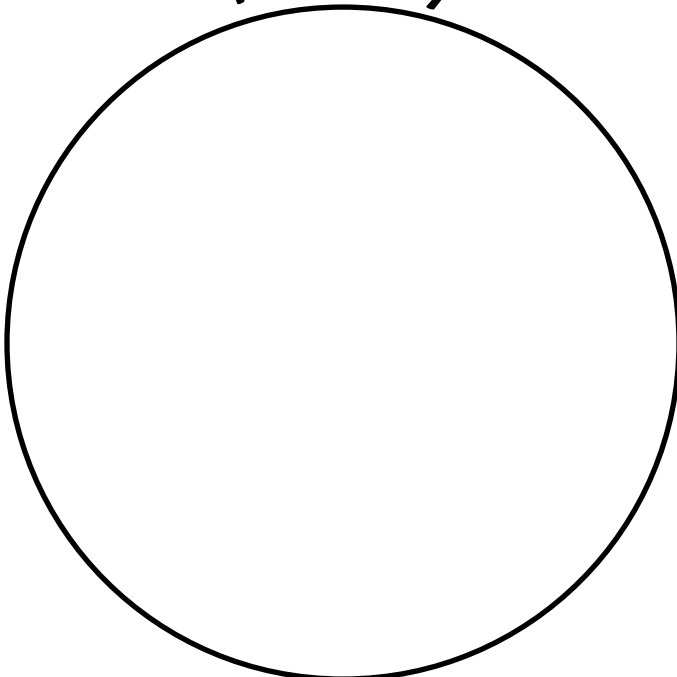
Instructions:

1. Cut out the inside circle of your paper plate (it is okay to ask a grownup for help to do this). If you do not have a paper plate, cut out a circle in a piece of paper and then cut out an inside circle. You just want to have a big doughnut shape.
2. Take your circle outside and hold it up. You should see things far away from you.
3. Draw only what you see in the frame inside of the circle that says "far away" below. It is kind of like taking a picture.
4. Now put your circle frame on the ground somewhere. Look up close at what is only inside the circle.
5. Draw what you see in your frame on the ground in the circle where the worksheet says: "up close."
6. Look at how the drawings look different up close and far away.

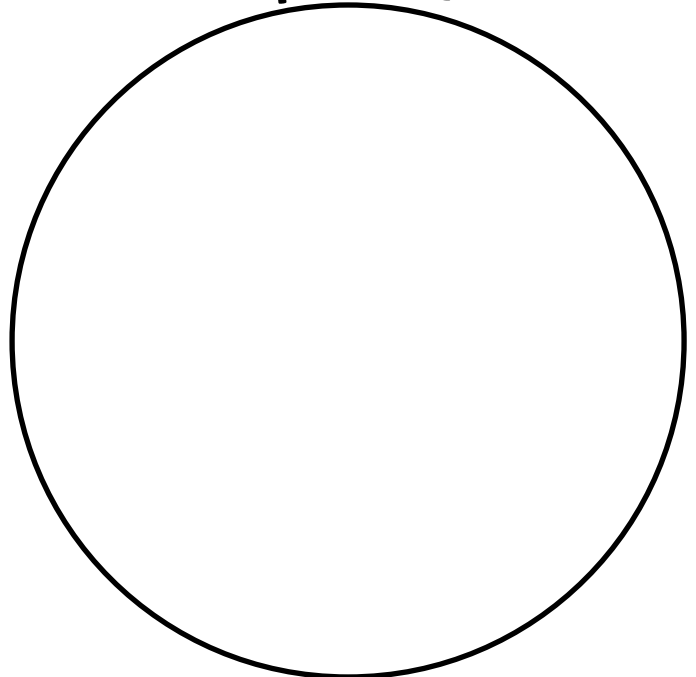


Circle Frame Worksheet

Far Away



Up Close



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Nature Color Scavenger Hunt

Naturalists pay attention to the different colors that are around them. There are so many different colors that make up the outdoors! Not every color is even the same, even greens are different!

Materials:

- Nature Color Hunt Worksheet
- Something to write with
- Markers, crayons, or colored pencils

Instructions:

1. Go outside near your home or sit at a window inside.
2. Look at all of the colors listed on the worksheet below. Try to find something outside that is the same color. Write or draw what you found in the box next to the color.
3. Try to find all of the colors outside!



Nature Color Hunt Worksheet

Red	Orange	Yellow

Green	Blue	Purple

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Birdwatching with Binoculars

Many naturalists use a special tool called “binoculars” to watch birds. If you have some, you can use them. If you do not have binoculars, you can either use your hands or use the directions below to make some.

Materials:

- The binoculars you have or make



If you liked this activity try “Bonus: Birding Lesson with Wolf Ridge” on page 19.

Instructions:

1. Take your binoculars outside. Choose a spot to sit and wait for birds to come. You are going to have to be very still so you do not scare any birds away.
2. When you see a bird come, lift your binoculars up to your face and adjust them if you need.
3. Watch the bird. What is it doing? Is it looking for food? Is it talking to a friend? Flying? Building a nest? What color is it?
4. See how many birds come in one spot then go choose another place to sit and wait. You may see new birds there!

Make Your Own Binoculars

One tool naturalists like to use are binoculars to help them see animals that are far away or hard to see. Here is a craft to help you make your very own pair of binoculars!

Materials:

- 2 cardboard toilet paper tubes
- Glue or tape
- Scissors
- String or ribbon
- Colored paper
- Supplies to decorate (markers, stickers, crayons)

Instructions:

1. Glue your two toilet paper rolls together side by side so you can see through both tubes. Let it dry.
2. Cut a strip of colored paper to wrap around the two toilet paper tubes and glue it in place to help them stay together.
3. Cut a piece of string or ribbon about as long as your arm to use as a strap for your binoculars.
4. Take the string or ribbon and glue it to the sides of your binoculars. Make sure the glue is dry before you put them around your neck.
5. Use whatever you would like to decorate your new pair of binoculars!

Observation List

Naturalists keep a list of all of the things they see out in nature. It is called an observation list. Naturalists use all of their senses when writing their observation list. Today you are going to focus on using your sight to start your very own observation list!

Materials:

- Nature journal
- Something to write with

Instructions:

1. Sit outside near your home or at a window.
2. Write down different things that you observe. This could be how many trees you see, what color the flowers are, or what a bird is doing.
3. As the week goes on, add to your observation list.

Bonus: Birding Lesson with Wolf Ridge

This activity is a full lesson and guide to birdwatching made by our naturalist friends at Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center. You will need to use an online link from the Outdoor U website to see it.

Materials:

- Computer
- Nature Journal
- Pencil/colors
- Optional: binoculars

Instructions:

1. With a grownup's permission, go to the Junior Naturalist camp page on the Outdoor U Website.
2. Click on the "Wolf Ridge Birding Lesson" link and follow their directions. They will give you background information, a video, and nature journal instructions as you go. Enjoy!

Bonus: Animal Tracks

Just like people have different sized hands, so do animals! Some animals have very small prints, and some have very large prints. Compare the size of your hand with the size of various animals and see how they are different or the same.

Materials:

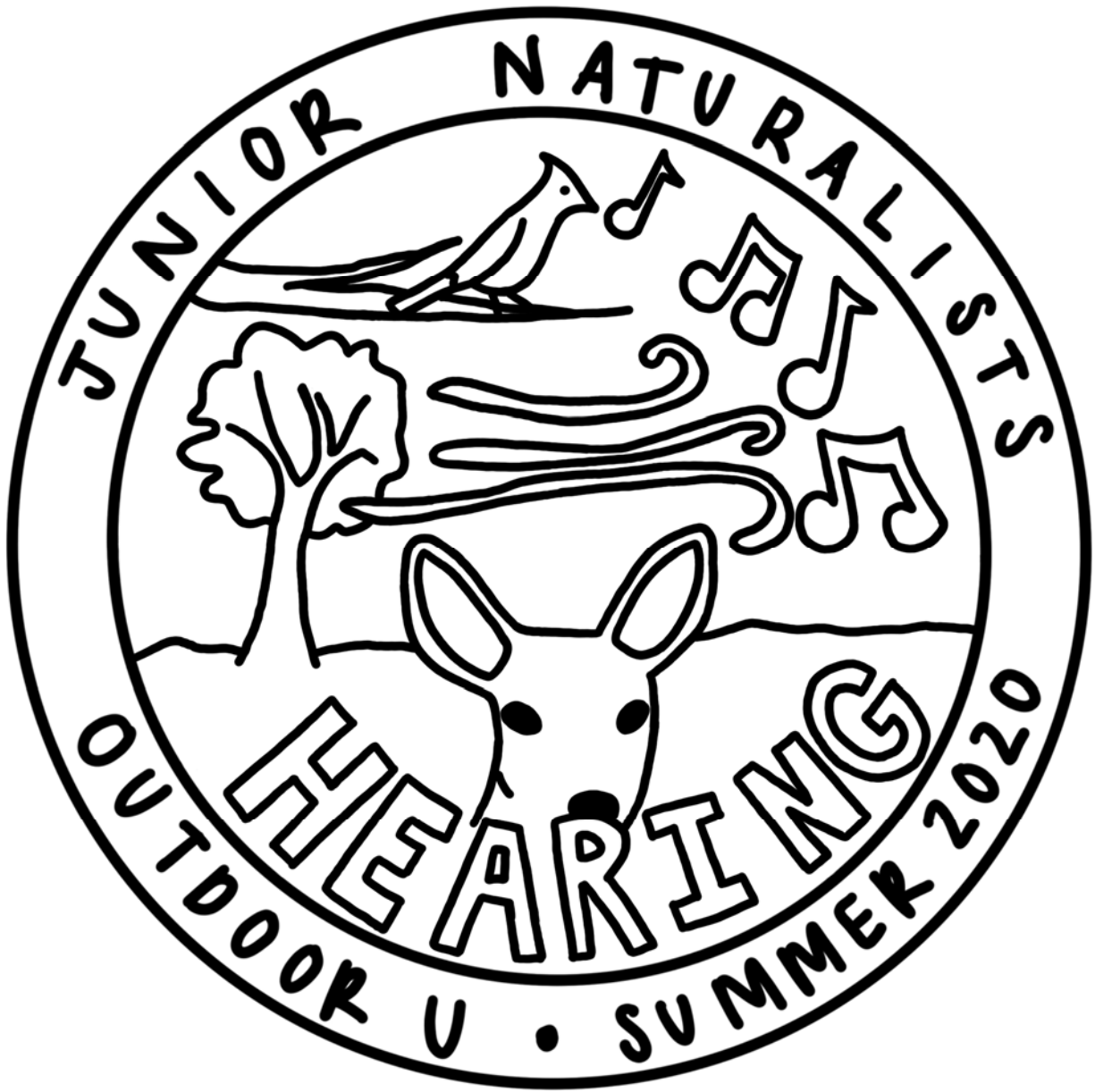
- MN DNR handout
- Something to write with

Instructions:

1. Go to the Junior Naturalist page on the Outdoor U website to find the link to the DNR handout. Ask a grownup for help.
2. Print out a few of the pages with animal prints on them.
3. Place your hand on top of the paper with the animal prints.
4. Trace around your hand.
5. Compare how your hand and the animal's print are different sizes and how they look!

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Junior Naturalists At-Home Camp



Tuesday

Junior Naturalists Daily Options

Tuesday - Hearing

Use this list of options as a guide to help you decide what you want to do during the day. You can do as many or as few as you want but remember, the more you do the more you learn!


- Watch the “Hearing Introduction” video on Flipgrid.
- Answer the introduction question on Flipgrid.
- Go to your “sit spot” and choose a few hearing nature journal ideas to answer.
- Read about the “Naturalists of the Day.”
- Hearing activity options—choose how many you would like to do!
 - * One-Person Nature Band
 - * Listen Up!
 - * Deer Ears
 - * Sounds in My Neighborhood
 - * Nature Wind Chimes
 - * Frog Sounds by Tamarak Nature Center
 - * Drawing Bird Calls
 - * Bonus: Abstract Sound Artwork
- Answer the hearing reflection question on Flipgrid.
- You completed hearing day! Color in the hearing badge.

HEARING

Hello Nature Explorers! Today you are going to focus on using your sense of hearing. Naturalists may use their sense of hearing to listen for bird or frog calls. They might even try to create new sounds with things they find in nature! You are going to complete activities that will help you to observe, wonder, and explore nature by using your ears.

Nature Journal of the Day

Take your nature journal to your “sit spot” and choose a few of the ideas to complete.

- Today, you are going to focus on your sense of hearing to add to your observation list. Close your eyes and listen really close. What do you hear? Write or draw all of the things you can hear on your observation list.
- Some musicians use nature to help them write songs. Listen to the Okee Dokee Brothers song called Walking With Spring. Do any images come into your mind while listening? Does the song make you feel a certain way? Write or draw the images and feelings down in your nature journal. 
- Find a tree to sit underneath. As you sit there, look up into the branches. Do you hear any animals running back and forth? Are there any birds singing in that tree? Are the leaves making noise in the wind? Write or draw the things in that tree that are making noise!
- At the beginning of the day go to your “sit-spot” and try to listen for birds. Write in your nature journal how many different songs you hear. Are certain bird songs louder than others? At the end of the day, go back to your “sit spot” and listen again for birds. Are the songs different than what you heard in the morning? How many different songs can you hear now? Is it more or less than in the morning? Write your findings in your nature journal.
- Animals are always using their sense of hearing to listen for predators, their families, and for food. Choose any animal and think about what they might hear or listen for every day. What do you think the animal says to its family members? Is there a sound that you think they like the most, or a sound that scares them? Write or draw about what this animal hears in your nature journal.

Naturalists of the Day - Hearing

Name: Frances Hamerstrom

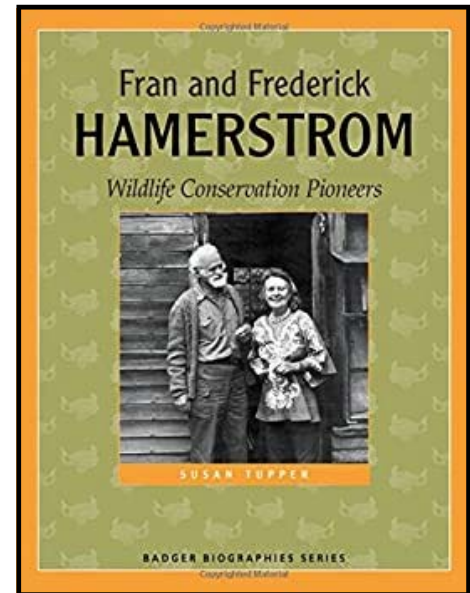
From: Wisconsin

Lived: 1907-1998

What they liked to study:

Prairie Chickens

Fun fact: Frances was the first woman in the United States to go to school for wildlife management! She also wrote many books!



Name: William Kamkwamba

From: Malawi

Age: 32

What they like to study:

Wind and water

Fun fact: William learned how to build a windmill from just a photo! The movie "The Boy who Harnessed the Wind" is about him!



Go to the camp resource page on the Outdoor U website to explore more about Frances and William. Be sure to ask a grownup for help!

One-Person Nature Band

Have you ever wanted to be in a band? Do you like to play outside? If you said yes to either of those questions, it is your turn to be the star of your very own One-Person Nature Band! You can get to know the outdoors better by exploring how different materials sound together.

Materials:

- Containers of any kind: jars, buckets, or bins
- Natural materials

Instructions:

1. Bring your containers outside.
2. Find different things from nature such as rocks, pinecones, twigs, and other materials.
3. Put the different materials into your containers or keep them separate.
4. Be creative with how you make music! Shake your containers, brush or bang different things together, drop things on a sidewalk or into water. Explore other ways to make sounds!

Listen Up!

Have you ever sat in one spot quietly to listen to all the sounds around you? Naturalists listen very closely to things in nature so they can understand them better. Try and see how many things you can hear when you listen closely!

Materials:

- Good listening ears
- A nice spot to sit

Instructions:

1. Find a spot to sit outside or inside by an open window.
2. Close your eyes and listen very closely to all the different things making noise.
3. Now, open your eyes and look for what was making a specific sound.
4. Close your eyes again and focus on that sound.
5. Repeat this for as long as you want to.

Deer Ears

Have you ever seen a deer before? Did you notice how their ears are shaped? Deer's ears move around a lot so they can pick up on very quiet sounds. Now, you will try to make your ears like deer ears so you can hear even more things!

Materials:

- Good listening ears



Instructions:

1. Go outside near your home to a spot that you think you might be able to hear lots of things.
2. Just sit and listen. What do you hear?
3. Now, put your hands behind your ears and gently pull your ears forward. Feel free to change where your hands are so you are comfortable and can hear better.
4. Listen with your deer ears. Do things sound different? Can you hear more clearly than before?

Sounds in My Neighborhood

What sounds are around the place you live? Draw a map of your neighborhood and add pictures to show what sounds you are hearing.

Materials:

- Nature journal or a piece of paper
- Drawing and coloring tools
- Good listening ears

Instructions:

1. Open up your nature journal and draw a map of your neighborhood, park, or space around your home. Try to imagine you are a bird flying overhead. Sometimes it helps to walk around in the space to remember what it looks like.
2. Go outside near your home to sit or walk around and listen for sounds. (Make sure to ask a grownup for the "okay.")
3. When you hear a sound, figure out where it is coming from and what it is.
4. Draw of a picture of what made the sound in the same spot on the map. So if a bird was singing in a tree, find the tree on your map and draw the bird there.
5. Make it your own. Add some colors if you like. It will be fun to see how many sounds you can find.

Nature Wind Chimes

Make a windchime out of things from nature to listen to all day long.

Materials:

- A stick as thick as your pinky
- String
- Natural objects found outside (sticks, rocks, acorns, pinecones, and more)

Instructions:

1. Cut a few pieces of string and tie one end to the natural objects you found outside.
2. Tie the other end of the string to the stick as thick as your pinky.
3. Cut one long piece of string to tie to each end of your stick as thick as your pinky.
4. Hang outside and hear how the wind blows your new windchime!

Frog Sounds by Tamarak Nature Center



Most of the time we can hear but not see frogs. Naturalists listen to frog sounds to identify what types of frogs are close by. Today you will watch a video that will help you start to learn some frog sounds.

Materials:

- Tamarak Nature Center video (online)
- Good listening ears

Instructions:

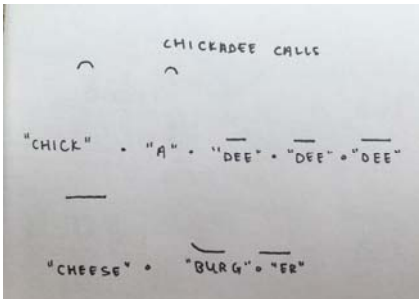
1. Ask a grownup to help you get to the Junior Naturalist page on the Outdoor U website.
2. Click the linked video for “Frog Sounds by Tamarak Nature Center.”
3. Listen and follow along.

Drawing Bird Calls

Some naturalists use a tool called a “spectrogram” to help them remember bird calls. A spectrogram is a picture of a line that goes up and down based on if a bird’s call sounds higher or lower. Now, you will get to draw a spectrogram!

Materials:

- A piece of paper or your nature journal
- Something to write with



Instructions:

1. Go outside near your home and find a spot to sit where you think you might be able to hear birds. Don’t forget to bring your materials with!
2. Sit quietly and listen for bird calls.
3. When you hear a bird call, try to draw it as a “spectrogram.” Listen closely to see if the bird call goes up or down and try to draw it the same way on your paper.
4. You can even try to think of something that it sounds like the bird is saying. For example, some people think that a Chickadee sounds like it says “cheese burger.”
5. If you can see the bird that is making the call, try to draw it next to your spectrogram. It is okay if you can't see the bird or if you don't know what kind it is.



Bonus: Abstract Sound Artwork

Some artists like to make a special kind of art called “abstract art.” Abstract art uses lots of different colors, lines, and shapes to make a beautiful work of art. Now, you are the artist! You will get to create a work of abstract art inspired by the sounds of nature you hear.

Materials:

- A piece of paper or your nature journal
- Art supplies

Instructions:

1. Find a spot to sit outside or inside by an open window.
2. Listen closely to all the different sounds you hear.
3. As you listen, color on your sheet of paper how the different sounds make you feel. You can use different colors, shapes, and lines to express yourself.
4. Remember there is no wrong way to do this! Just draw what you feel.

Junior Naturalists At-Home Camp



wednesday

Junior Naturalists Daily Options

Wednesday - Touch

Use this list of options as a guide to help you decide what you want to do during the day. You can do as many or as few as you want but remember, the more you do the more you learn!


- Watch the “Touch Introduction” video.
- Answer the morning touch Flipgrid question.
- Go to your “sit spot” and choose a few touch nature journal ideas to answer.
- Read about the “Naturalists of the Day.”
- Touch activity options—choose how many you would like to do!
 - * Nature Soup
 - * Wet vs Dry
 - * Texture Rubbings
 - * Build Your Own Birds Nest
 - * Texture: Indoors and Outdoors
 - * Bonus: Feeling with your Feet
 - * Bonus: Textures with Playdough
- Answer the afternoon touch Flipgrid question.
- You completed touch day! Color in the touch badge.

TOUCH

Hello Nature Explorers! Today you will be using your sense of touch just like a naturalist. Naturalists use their sense of touch to learn how nature works or identify trees. Touch helps naturalists find clues left by animals. Today you will complete activities that allow you to observe, wonder, and explore just like a naturalist by using your sense of touch.

Nature Journal of the Day

Take your nature journal to your “sit spot” and choose a few of the ideas to complete.

- Today, you are going to focus on your sense of touch to add to your observation list. Feel the ground around you. Is it wet or is it dry? Feel a few things that are close to your “sit spot.” Write their textures on your observation list in your nature journal.
- Go find a flower or a plant near your “sit spot.” While being gentle, feel the different parts. What does the ground around the plant feel like? What does the stem feel like? Are there petals you can touch? Or leaves? Remember to be gentle! Draw the plant in your nature journal and label each part of the plant with their texture.
- Fish do not have any ears so they do not hear like us. Instead, they have what are called pores on the side of their body to help them feel movement in the water. If you have a speaker at home, with a grownup’s permission, play music on the speaker. Place your hand on the speaker and feel the beat through your hands. In your nature journal write what your hands felt. 
- Rocks were formed millions of years ago. There are many different types of rocks. Some rocks were made by hot lava and other rocks were made because of pressure. Try to find two rocks that are different. Use your hands to feel their textures and shape. Write or draw the rocks and their textures in your nature journal.
- Imagine that instead of hands and feet, you had tentacles like an octopus or talons like an eagle. How do you think things would feel differently? Do you think you would still be able to do everything you can now, or not? Write and draw about what you think it might be like to have something else in place of your hands.

Naturalists of the Day - Touch

Name: Aldo Leopold

From: Iowa

Lived: 1887-1948

What they liked to study:

Forests and prairies

Fun fact: Aldo wrote the first book for schools to use on wildlife management!



Name: Jane Goodall

From: England

Age: 86

What they like to study:

Chimpanzees

Fun fact: Jane was the first to include conservation of humans with conservation of animals!



Go to the camp resource page on the Outdoor U website to explore more about Aldo and Jane. Be sure to ask a grownup for help!

Nature Soup

Do you think you could guess what something is just by touching it? Now, you will be the chef of your own nature soup. This nature soup is not for eating! You will use it to find out if you can sort things only based off your sense of touch.

Materials:

- Bin or bucket
- Water
- Natural materials



If you liked this activity try "Bonus: Feel With Your Feet" on page 37.

Instructions:

1. Fill a container halfway with water. (Ask a grownup first.)
2. Go outside near your home and collect things from nature that have different textures.
3. Dump them into the water to make a "nature soup."
4. Close your eyes and explore your soup with your hands. Does anything float? Does anything sink? Does anything dissolve?
5. With your eyes closed, try to pull out each piece of your soup and sort them into a smooth and a rough pile.
6. Open your eyes and look at your piles. Did you sort everything correctly? Was one object harder to sort than the others?

Wet vs Dry

Naturalists have to use their sense of touch to help them compare lots of things in nature. Sometimes when they do this, the things in nature might be wet from dew or rainfall. You will take a closer look at what things feel like when they are wet and dry.

Materials:

- Cup of water
- Things from nature

Instructions:

1. Go outside near your home and find some dry things that have interesting textures.
2. Feel these things when they are dry and try to remember what they feel like.
3. Use your cup to pour some water on the things from nature. What happens to it? Does it feel slimy, slippery, or muddy?

Texture Rubbings

Naturalists use textures to identify different plants and animals. Sometimes there are some details about them that we miss. Today, you will use a texture rubbing to help see all the details.

Materials:

- Flat things from nature
- A piece of paper
- Crayons (other coloring materials work too)
- Clipboard or something hard to color on



If you liked this activity, try "Bonus: Texture Rubbings with Playdough" on page 37.

Instructions:

1. Find something flat in nature that looks like it has an interesting texture.
2. Lay the piece of nature on your clipboard and place the paper on top.
3. Hold the paper in place and lay the crayon down on the paper to rub it all over. You want as much of the crayon touching the paper as possible. You may need to take away the paper on the outside of the crayon to do this. (Make sure to put trash in the trash can.)
4. Look at the texture once it is all done. Is that what you thought it was going to look like? Did any lines show up you were not expecting?
5. Try again on more textures to see how they all look.

Build Your Own Birds Nest

Did you know naturalists can use bird nests to help them tell what kind of bird is living close by? The textures and materials used to build the nest can tell us a lot about the bird. Some birds like really soft nests made of grasses, mud, and moss. Others use big branches, leaves, and straw. Watch the video on the Outdoor U website for more information!

Materials:

- Outdoor U video
- Natural materials

Instructions:

1. Ask for a grownup's help to go online to the Junior Naturalist page on the Outdoor U website.
2. Click on the link to the "Build Your Own Birds Nest" video. Listen to the Outdoor U naturalist and follow the rest of their instructions.

Textures: Indoors and Outdoors

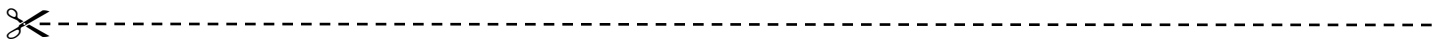
Naturalists use their sense of touch to feel different textures. Did you know that you can find all types of textures inside and outside? Today you will get to use your sense of touch to find different textures.

Materials:

- Indoor and Outdoor Textures Worksheet
- Something to write with
- Textures from inside
- Textures from outside

Instructions:

1. Find things in your house with textures that match the ones on your worksheet. (If it says "soft" find a soft blanket or t-shirt.)
2. Write or draw what you find to match in the box below the texture on the worksheet.
3. Go outside near your home and find another match for each texture. (Where it says "soft" look for a soft leaf or flower.)
4. Write or draw what you find inside and outside below.
5. Look at how the textures you found inside are similar and different to what you found outside.



Indoor/Outdoor Textures Worksheet

	Soft	Smooth	Slippery	Bumpy	Scratchy	Fuzzy
Indoor Texture						
Outdoor Texture						

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Bonus: Feeling with your Feet

You feel lots of things with your hands every day, but have you ever tried to feel things with your feet? Today, you will use your feet to explore different textures. Before you feel things with your feet, think of all the different feet of other animals, like horses' hooves or an eagle's sharp talons.

Materials:

- Feet

Instructions:

1. Ask your grownup for permission to walk around outside with bare feet.
2. If they say yes, go outside near your home and look around to see if there is anything that might hurt your feet, like sharp objects or bees.
3. Once you make sure there is nothing that will hurt you, try feeling different things with the bottom of your feet. Does anything tickle? Are some things warmer or cooler than others?

Bonus: Textures with Playdough

Naturalists use textures to identify different plants and animals. Sometimes there are some details about them that we miss. Today, we will use playdough to help us see all the details.

Materials:

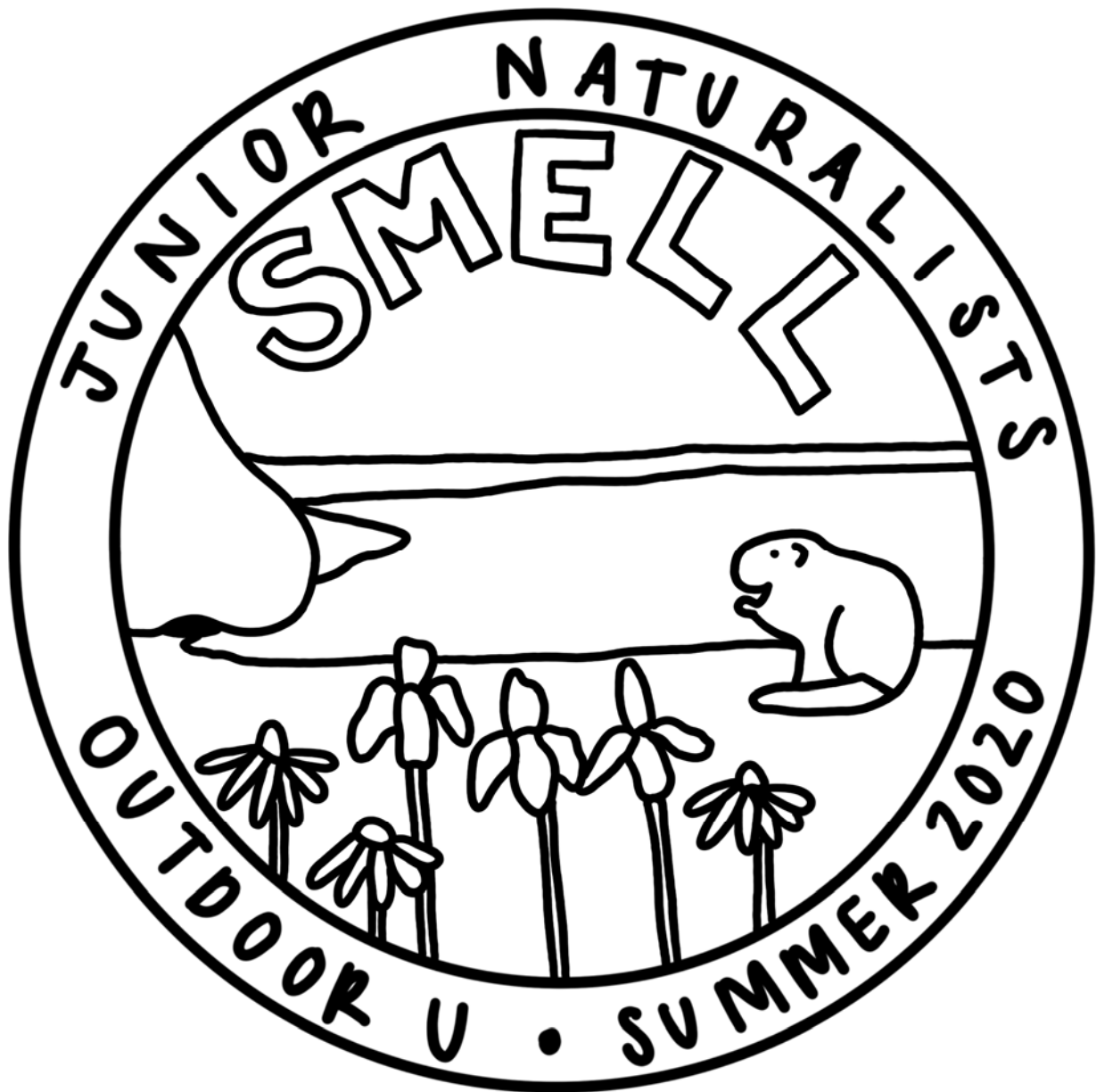
- Things from nature that have cool textures (like trees)
- Playdough that is okay to get dirty (ask a grownup)

Instructions:

1. Go find things from nature that have cool designs.
2. If it is big (like a tree), put the playdough right on it and gently press. Then slowly peel it back to see the pattern and lines.
3. If the thing from nature is small, put the playdough flat in your hand or on a hard surface and lightly press the small thing on top. Then slowly peel the piece away from the playdough to see the pattern and lines.
4. Try again using something else!

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Junior Naturalists At-Home Camp



Thursday

Junior Naturalists Daily Options

Thursday - Smell

Use this list of options as a guide to help you decide what you want to do during the day. You can do as many or as few as you want but remember, the more you do the more you learn!

- Watch the “Smell Introduction” video.
- Answer the smell introduction question on Flipgrid.
- Go to your “sit spot” and choose a few smell nature journal ideas to answer.
- Read about the “Naturalists of the Day.”
- Smell activity options—choose how many you would like to do!
 - * Does Everything Have a Smell?
 - * What Color is that Smell?
 - * Who Has the Best Nose?
 - * Simply Smelling
 - * Scratch and Sniff
 - * Scent Marks Territory
 - * Bonus: Guess That Scent
- Answer the smell reflection question on Flipgrid.
- You completed smell day! Color in the smell badge.

SMELL

Hello Nature Explorers! The last sense you are going to be using to observe, wonder, and explore nature is smell. Naturalists use their nose to smell flowers and other plants. They even learn about how animals use smell and scent to send messages. In today's activities you will use your nose to discover smells and learn about how other animals use smell!

Nature Journal of the Day

Take your nature journal to your "sit spot" and choose a few of the ideas to complete.

- Today, you are going to focus on your sense of smell to add to your observation list. What does the air smell like? Can you smell the grass? These are a few things you may smell. What other things can you smell when you close your eyes? Write or draw these down on your observation list.
- Find a flower or another plant near your "sit spot." (Maybe even the same plant you felt yesterday!) While being careful, bend down to smell this plant. Does it have a strong smell? If it does not have a strong smell that is okay. In your nature journal draw this plant if you have not already and write if it has a strong smell or not.
- Smells can make you think of memories. Are there any smells that make you think of any holidays? Are there any smells that make you think of a loved one? Write or draw these down in your nature journal.
- Lots of animals, like dogs and bears, have a sense of smell that is much stronger than humans. Some experts say Black Bears can smell food up to 20 miles away! What are some things you think you might be able to smell from your "sit-spot" if you had the nose of a dog or a bear? Draw or write about these things in your nature journal.

Naturalists of the Day - Smell

Name: Courtney Millaway

From: Saint Joseph, Minnesota

Age: 29

What they like to study: Plants that grow in water

Fun fact: Courtney works for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR)!



Name: Wangari Maathai

From: Kenya

Lived: 1940-2011

What they liked to study: Animal's bodies and tree planting

Fun fact: Wangari won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2004!



Go to the camp resource page on the Outdoor U website to explore more about Courtney and Wangari. Be sure to ask a grownup for help!

Does Everything Have a Smell?

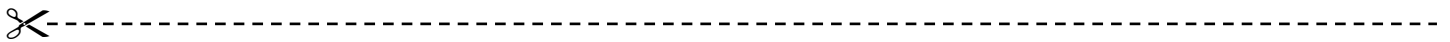
Do you think that everything has a smell or do some things have no smell? Let's find out!

Materials:

- How do Things Smell? Worksheet
- Piece of paper
- Objects to smell

Instructions:

1. Take your worksheet and pencil with you. Go pick something to smell. (Remember how to smell like a naturalist!)
2. Decide if there is a scent or no scent. If there is no scent, write or draw a picture of what you smelled in the no scent box.
3. If it has a scent, decide if it is a good or bad smell. Write or draw good smells into the good smell box and bad smells into the bad smell box.
4. Look at your results once you are done (try to smell at least 6 different things). Did you have anything with no scent? Did everything have a scent? Which box has the most things in it?



How do Things Smell? Worksheet

No Scent	Good Smell	Bad Smell

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What Color is that Smell?

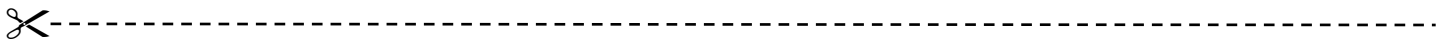
Part of being a naturalist is making new discoveries! In this activity you are going to find new smells and maybe some old smells. You can even pick a color or a feeling that reminds you of that smell!

Materials:

- What Color is that Smell Worksheet
- Something to write with
- Markers, crayons, or colored pencils

Instructions:

1. On the worksheet look at the pieces of nature that are listed. Try and find each of these in or near your home and see what they smell like. It is okay if you cannot find each one!
2. Once you have smelled each thing, use the box next to that smell to write the color that reminds you of that smell. You can even use a colored marker, crayon, or colored pencil!
3. After you have given a color to each smell, are there any feelings that remind you of each smell? If there are, write down that feeling next to the color you gave the smell!



What Color is that Smell? Worksheet

	The Color it reminds me of is...	It make me Feel...
Grass		
Soil		
Flower		
Bark		
Leaf		

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Who Has the Best Nose?

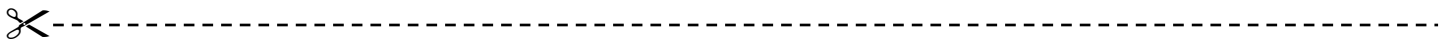
Did you know that humans do not have the best nose? Many different animals are better at smelling than we are! Can you guess the order these animals go in from having the best sense of smell to the worst?

Materials:

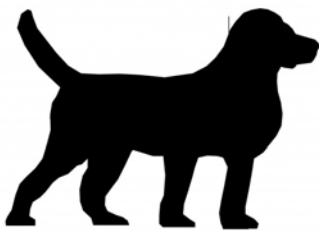
- Animal cards
- Scissors
- Glue stick (optional)

Instructions:

1. Cut out all the animal cards by following the **dotted** lines.
2. Arrange them in the order you think they go: from best... to worst.
3. When you think they are in order, check the answers at the bottom of page 58. **NO CHEATING** 😊
4. If you want, you can glue them onto a page in your nature journal so you can always remember.



Animal Cards



Dog



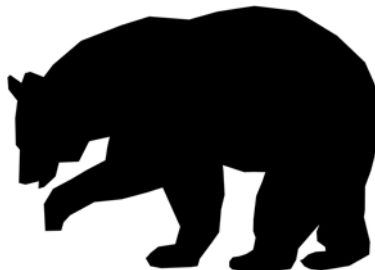
Deer



Human



Rabbit



Bear



Elk

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Simply Smelling

Think of some of your favorite smells. Maybe these are food, your shirt after it is washed, or a flower. Today, you will get to explore nature using your sense of smell, and maybe even find your new favorite smell!

Materials:

- Your nose
- Nature

Instructions:

1. Go outside near your home.
2. Find different things you can smell (flowers, grass, leaves, rocks, etc.).
3. Smell each object like a naturalist.
4. Try ripping or crumbling the objects to see if they smell stronger.

Scratch and Sniff

Have you ever wondered if you could put the smell or color of a flower onto a piece of paper? Naturalists sometimes use their nature journals to record things they can smell in nature. Try and see if you can record smells by rubbing things in our nature journals!

Materials:

- Nature journal
- Something to write or draw with
- Things from nature

Instructions:

1. Go outside near your home and gather some of the smelly things from nature.
2. Draw or write in your nature journal what each thing smells like.
3. Rub some of the objects onto the paper in your nature journal. Does the smell “stick” to the paper?

Scent Marks Territory

There are many animals that use scents to mark their own territory to tell other animals where and who they are. Today you get to make your own scent or perfume using smells you like from nature.

Materials:

- Small container (like a jar or bowl)
- A stick to stir with
- Pieces of nature you think smell good

Instructions:

1. Walk around and smell different things. (Remember to smell like a naturalist!)
2. Collect the natural materials you think smell good. Put them into your container.
3. Once you have found as many things as you would like, use the stick to stir it all up. Maybe try gently crushing some of the materials to help the scent come out. Continue to mix.
4. Smell the new scent like a naturalist. What does it smell like?
5. Go teach someone else how to smell like a naturalist and let them sniff the new scent you invented!
6. Once you are all done, remember to dump the nature materials back outside and put away the stick. You may need to wash out the container.



Bonus: Guess That Scent



It's time for you to put your sense of smell to the test! For this activity you are going to need a grownup or older sibling who is willing to set it up. This is a really fun activity for everyone to try!

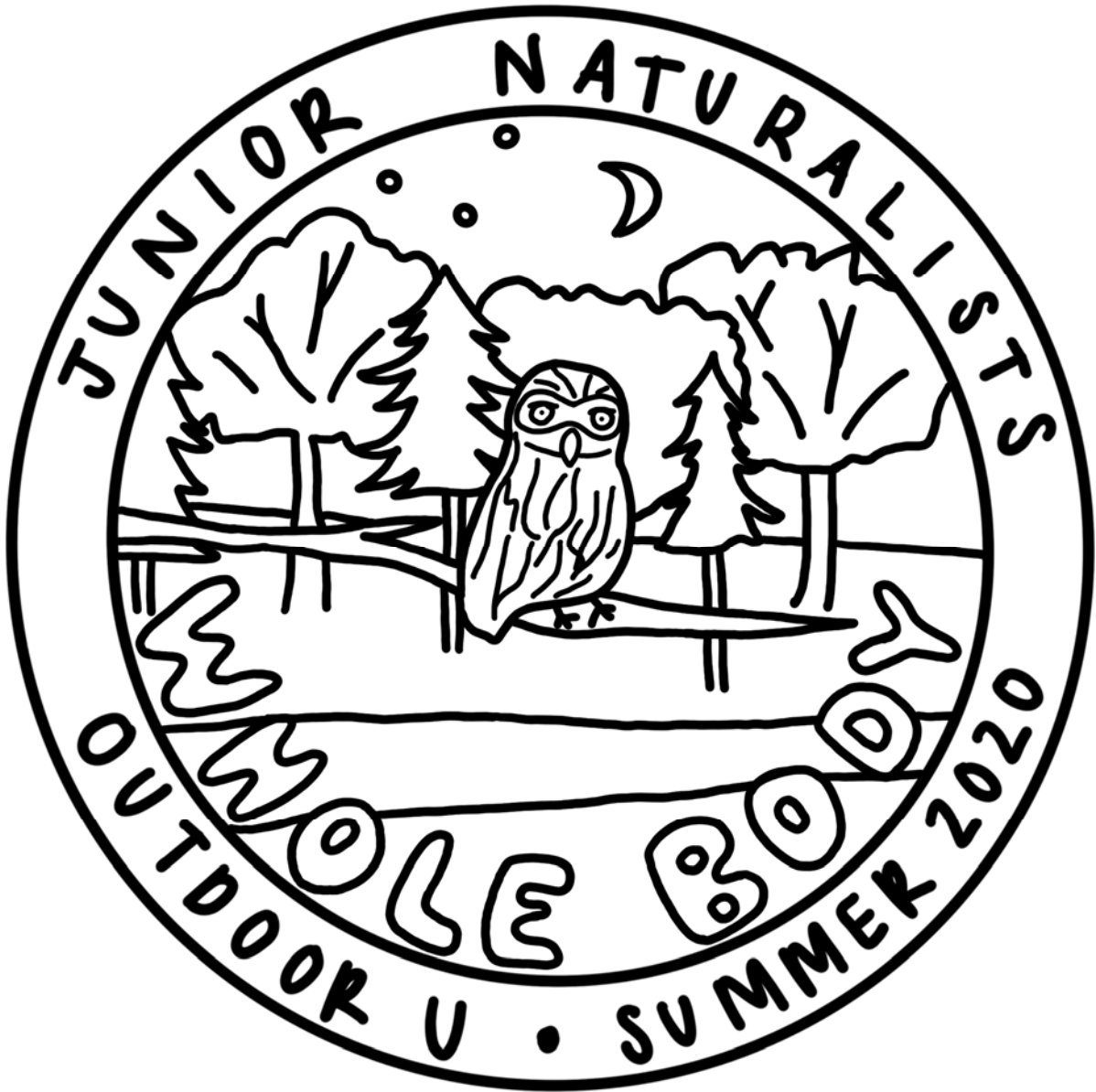
Materials:

- Paper bags (small is great)
- 4-5 items/foods with a distinct smell (ex: playdough, orange peel, pinecone)
- Blindfold (optional)

Instructions:

1. Gather 4-5 items/foods with a distinct smell. Write these down on a piece of paper for the person who will be guessing.
2. Place each item into a small paper bag.
3. Have the person that will be guessing either put on a blindfold or close their eyes (no peeking)! Have them take a smell from one of the bags.
4. Have them guess what they smelled. They can either get to look at the list or make it harder by not looking. Repeat with all of the bags.
5. Once done, let the guesser see what all the smells were! How did they do?

Junior Naturalists At-Home Camp



Friday

Junior Naturalists Daily Checklist

Friday - Whole Body

Use this list of options as a guide to help you decide what you want to do during the day. You can do as many or as few as you want but remember, the more you do the more you learn!

- Watch the “Whole Body Introduction” video.
- Answer the whole body introduction question on Flipgrid.
- Go to your “sit spot” and choose a few whole body nature journal ideas to answer.
- Read about the “Naturalists of the Day.”
- Whole body activity options—choose how many you would like to do!
 - * Mini Nature Bath
 - * Write a Poem or Short Story
 - * Sun vs Shade
 - * Sensory BINGO
 - * Plant Observations
 - * Not All Trees are the Same!
- Answer the whole body reflection question on Flipgrid.
- Complete camp evaluations—ask a grownup to check their email.
- You completed whole body day! Color in the whole body badge.
- Congratulations! You finished Junior Naturalist Camp! You can now open the Camp Celebration Envelope and watch the “Celebration” video!

WHOLE BODY

Hello Nature Explorers! Today is the last day of camp! You will use all four senses you learned about together to observe, wonder, and explore nature with your whole body. Naturalists use all of their senses together to explore. Naturalists can make more observations and ask better questions by using their sense of sight, hearing, touch, and smell together. Put all your senses together and you will be one step closer to becoming a junior naturalist!

Nature Journal of the Day

Take your nature journal to your “sit spot” and choose a few of the ideas to complete.

- For the last day, combine your sense of sight, smell, touch, and hearing. Write or draw your observations and add them to your observation list in your nature journal.
- Sometimes when you have your eyes closed, you can really focus on your other senses like smell, touch, and hearing. Try closing your eyes and using these senses to notice the nature that is near you. Write what you are noticing in your nature journal.
- Do you have any memories of being outside from when you were younger? Maybe you swam in a really cold lake or you saw a really cool frog! Or you remember a totally awesome tree you climbed. Once you think of a memory, try and think about how you were using your senses during that time. Draw this memory and write down the senses you were using.
- What is the weather like? You can use your sight to see if it is sunny or if it is rainy. If it is cloudy, the darker the clouds are a sign that rain might be coming. Sometimes before it starts to rain, you can smell it in the air. You can also feel the weather. If it is really hot you might sweat or if it is raining you will feel the water. Write or draw what you notice about today’s weather in your nature journal.
- Think of an animal that lives in a different habitat than you. This could be an animal that lives in the water, or maybe in the desert. Which senses do you think these animals use the most? How might their senses be different from yours? Have you ever swam before or walked around outside at night? Which senses did you use the most and which did you not rely on as much? Write or draw about this in your nature journal.

Naturalists of the Day - Whole Body

Name: Rachel Carson

From: Pennsylvania

Lived: 1907-1964

What they liked to study:

Animals that lived in water

Fun fact: Rachel's popular book "Silent Spring" helped ban the harmful chemical called DDT!



Name: Bittu Sahgal

From: India

Age: 72

What they like to study:

Different habitats

Fun fact: Bittu started an award for nature photography!



Go to the camp resource page on the Outdoor U website to explore more about Rachel and Bittu. Be sure to ask a grownup for help!

Mini Nature Bath

“Nature bathing” is when you sit outside in nature and relax and use your senses to take in all the things around you. Nature bathing was started in Japan and has been popular there since ancient times. Today, you will get to try nature bathing and use your senses to fully connect with nature.

Materials:

- A safe spot in nature

Instructions:

1. Go to outside near your home and find a safe spot that you can lay down on your back. This can be in the grass, on a sidewalk, or somewhere else that’s safe.
2. Before you lay down, check to see if there is anything that might hurt you, like sharp objects or bees. Also, check to see if there is anything that you might hurt, like a flower or an ant hill.
3. When you are ready, lay down in your safe spot and relax.
4. Notice your senses of sight, smell, touch, and hearing. Do the trees or other things around you look different from this angle? What does the sky look like? What does the ground beneath you feel like?

Write a Poem or Short Story

Naturalists use all of their senses to make observations. One fun activity naturalists do with their observations is use them to write a poem or short story.

Materials:

- Nature journal
- Something to write with

Instructions:

1. Go outside near your home and close your eyes.
2. What are you hearing? What do you smell? Write down these observations in your nature journal.
3. Open your eyes. What can you see? Write these things down in your nature journal.
4. Use your fingers to touch blades of grass or feel the bark on a nearby tree. What do they feel like? Write this down in your nature journal.
5. Look at all of the observations you just made. Use these observations to write a poem or a short story about the nature around you!

Sun vs Shade

Naturalists use their senses to compare different things in nature. In this activity, you will get to use your senses to discover what is different in sunny spots and shady spots.

Materials:

- Sunny spot
- Shady spot
- Cup of water

Instructions:

1. Go outside near your home and find a sunny spot and a shady spot. If it is cloudy, find a spot that you think usually gets more sun on sunny days.
2. Stand in each spot for a while. Feel how warm or cold the ground is. How do the two spots feel different?
3. Look around in each different spot for plants, animals, and little critters. Is there a difference between the two spots?
4. Listen carefully. Do you hear anything different between these two spots?
5. Pour some water on the ground in the two different spots. What happens to the water?
6. If you want, you can write your observations in your nature journal.

Sensory BINGO

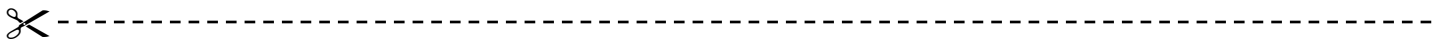
There are many things to see, hear, feel and smell when you are outside. Naturalists like to use all of their senses in order to make observations about what is around them. A good way to practice using all of your senses is with a game of BINGO!

Materials:

- BINGO card
- Something to write with

Instructions:

1. Cut out the BINGO card below on the dotted line
2. Go outside near your home and look for things that match what is on the BINGO card.
3. Cross off each one you find until you get BINGO!



Sensory BINGO Card

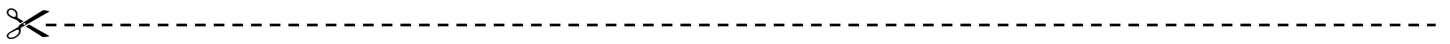
SEE something green	SMELL something that smells bad	FEEL something smooth	SEE something that is your favorite color	HEAR something loud
FEEL something that moves	HEAR something quiet	SEE something smaller than you	FEEL something light	SMELL something that smells good
SEE something with holes	FEEL something heavy	FREE SPACE	SEE something taller than you	SEE something bright
HEAR something far away	SEE something with 6 legs	SMELL a flower	HEAR a bird call	FEEL something rough
FEEL something fuzzy	HEAR something that repeats	SEE something colorful	FEEL something slimy	HEAR the wind blowing

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Plant Observations

Naturalists use more than one of their senses when they are observing things in nature like plants. They will use their sense of sight to look at the colors, the shape of the leaves, and how tall it is. They will give it a sniff to know what it smells like. If they know it is safe to touch, they will even feel what textures it has. Today you are going to use all of your senses and record your observations about plants.

- | | |
|---|---|
| Materials: | Instructions: |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant Observations Datasheet • Something to write with • Markers, crayons, or colored pencils | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Go outside near your home and find a plant to look at more closely. Take your worksheet with you. 2. Look at what colors the plant is. Does it have leaves? Draw or color the plant in the big box below. 3. Complete the data sheet by filling in the height (tall, short, or medium), what it feels like, and what it smells like. Make sure to ask a grownup if the plant is okay to touch because some plants make us itch. 4. Lastly, write down the plant's name. If you do not know what it is called, a grownup can help look it up, or you can make up the name! |



Plant Observations Datasheet

Plant name: _____

Plant color: _____

Plant height: _____

What it feels like: _____

What it smells like: _____

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Not All Trees are the Same!

Naturalists use all their senses to identify or figure out types of plants and animals. Today you are going to take a closer look at two different trees. By using your senses, you can write about all of the ways the two trees are different or similar to each other.

Materials: Instructions:

- Two Trees

1. Go outside near your home and pick two trees that look different from each other.

Datasheet

- Something to write with

2. First, use your sense of sight and write down everything you observe. What color is the bark? What color are the leaves? How tall is it? How big is the tree trunk? What do the shapes and lines look like in the bark?

3. Now use your sense of touch. Remember to write down your observations on the worksheet. What does the bark feel like? Is it squishy or tough? Make sure to check each tree.

4. Finally, use your sense of smell. Sniff the bark or a leaf from each tree. Write down what they smell like.

5. Find a leaf or needle from each tree (it is okay if it is too high to reach). Look at the colors and shapes. Feel the textures of each one. Draw them on your worksheet.



Two Trees Datasheet

	Tree 1	Tree 2
See		
Touch		
Smell		
Drawing		

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