



IT'S TIME

TO GET BACK OUTDOORS

Presented by
Adventure Thru Imagination Books
www.atibooks.com



WHAT WONDERS WILL YOUR CHILD DISCOVER TODAY

Bring out the inner adventurer in your child!

Start with books...one of the best ways to explore children's imagination, curiosity and wonder. Our *Adventure thru Imagination* books feed your child's imaginations with stories that delight and engage, illustrated with original artwork. Add in our free story stretchers created by Remy and Blair (former Preschool Director and Teacher, now a homeschool mom) and you have DFY engaging activities to extend the fun of each story across many subject areas.

Since kids are natural explorers and there's nothing more magical than a child's curiosity, we're celebrating **April's Month of the Young Child 2022** with our free Scavenger Hunts and Nature Sound Map providing opportunities to explore the great outdoors, while helping kids connect with nature.

Empower your child's curiosity by together experiencing imaginary adventures through books and the wonders of nature by getting back outdoors!

So grab your free copies of our ebooks (with ages shown) available on Amazon on the following April dates:

April 11-15: If You Were... (1-4) and What if you were...? (2-4)

April 18-22: The TOO TALL TREES (3-5) and My Name is FRED (4-6) and Stuck in Traffic, Waiting in Line: Kids BrainGames (3-11)

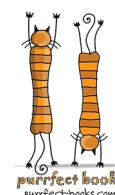
April 25-29: My mom is an ALIEN! (5-8) and WARNING. NEVER. EVER. (5 and up)

Discover our books and download FREE story stretchers for each of our books plus two free training videos on using our books to teach a variety of skills and subjects: <https://www.atibooks.com>

Get on the fun bandwagon with Cookie, Angel and Suitcase The Cat and their books. FREE download of our prequel short story; mazes, mandalas, entertaining videos; and a FREE Cat Dictionary: <https://www.purrfect-books.com>

**SPECIAL SALE PRICES ON ALL
OUR PRINT BOOKS
EVERY DAY THIS APRIL!**

Remy, Blair and Jackson, Three Generations of Authors



EXPLORE NATURE WITH OUR SCAVENGER HUNTS

The outdoors is a place of wonder and exploration. And sometimes the best stories begin in your own backyard, especially with very young children. Nature exploration uses all our senses: Seeing, hearing, smelling, touching and even feeling (e.g., the wind or sun). Hikes through local and state parks and forests offer more opportunities to enjoy 'nature's playground' with older children.

Making exploration a truly fun learning process means allowing time for observation and discovery, while proceeding at your child's pace.

Spreading out your scavenger hunt over several days or longer provides more opportunities to focus on just one or two items at a time with younger children.

Encourage your child to look under and on leaves, bushes, rocks. Search around the base of, and on the trunk of, trees. A magnifying glass, binoculars, insect net, camera and collection bag are great take-alongs and perhaps a bug catcher to allow for more discovery at home.

Use your cell phone to capture your 'finds', while leaving nature intact with photos to document your discoveries and use for further discussion later.

Extend the fun by planning an activity related to specific items found on your scavenger hunt. Let your child's curiosity spark questions to guide the activity. Consider learning about habitats of the different animals/insects; what they eat; what natural protections they have against predators.

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Tips for our individual scavenger hunts



ABC BUGS

1. Remind your child that he/she doesn't have to find all of the items on the Scavenger Hunt.
2. Be prepared to allow sufficient time for observation, questions, discussion and exploration. Let the Scavenger Hunt proceed at the child's pace. Breaking this into more than one 'hunt' helps children feel less pressure to get it all done at one time...and that leads to more fun and enjoyment.
3. For younger children, a line or 'x' on the item found is ok. No need to worry about the check box.
4. Suggested take-along items include binoculars, camera or cell phone, insect net, collection bag or basket, bug catcher (to release at home), magnifying glass. And some water to hydrate during your hunt.
5. This hunt covers items in nature coupled with early literacy skills such as phonics (sound of letters) and phonetic awareness (words are made of individual letter sounds).
6. If you are unable to find an item, simply cross it out and replace with one you do find to make the scavenger hunt fun and appropriate for your geographic location.
7. Note that every letter of the alphabet is not represented. However, you can use the DIY Scavenger Hunt to create your own using more of the alphabet. Include your child in the selection of additional letters that will be used in the DIY version.
8. Be sure to share the ABC Bugs Fun Facts with your child by engaging him/her in the discussion with questions such as, 'How do you think a butterfly tastes things?' BEFORE sharing the fact.
9. Adapt all scavenger hunts to the age and abilities of the participants. It's your scavenger hunt, so make it fun!

SIGHTS AND SOUNDS OF NATURE

1. All of the above applies to this and our other scavenger hunts.
2. This scavenger hunt will require a bit more time spent listening for the sounds of nature. It may help children focus on listening, by closing their eyes when standing still or sitting so they're not distracted by what they see.
3. Talk about where the sound is coming from; what they think might be making the sound; and what sounds they can feel (the wind against their face) as opposed to just hearing or seeing the leaves rustling.
4. If you're someplace other than a hiking park or forest, ask your child if the sound would be something an animal or insect, nature or a human would make (car horn beeping, siren, car or bus driving by).
5. Compare and contrast the items discovered in this hunt, e.g. rocks come in different sizes, shapes, smooth and rough; bugs make different sounds using different parts of their body.
6. Follow-up questions: Can you sing a song like a bird? Can you buzz around like a bee? Let them use their imagination to answer, "How do bees make that buzzing sound?" Can you crawl around like a worm? Do worms make sounds? Does the sun make a sound or a flower? If you close your eyes and hold a flower to your face, how could you know it's a flower?

Tips for our individual scavenger hunts, continued



Explore the Wonders of Nature

1. Look in mud (and snow) to find animal tracks more clearly; dry dirt also produces tracks.
2. Look in your garden for insect and animal tracks and around ponds, streams, lakes and rivers.
3. Measure the length and width, look for a heel, number of toes, claw marks to help identify the animal.
4. Follow the tracks, looking for patterns.
5. Animals that walk or trot (canines, felines, deer and moose) leave straight tracks. Deer tracks can be difficult to discern from dog tracks.
6. Animal tracks that look more like narrow trails may indicate snakes.
7. Insects that often leave tracks include ants, beetles, crickets, grasshoppers, millipedes.
8. Many insects make homes in trees; some burrow underground as do small mammals.
Honeybees build hives in trees and rock crevices.
9. Animal and insect habitats are where these creatures live naturally, providing food, water, shelter and space to survive.

DO IT YOURSELF

1. We've provided you with a blank Scavenger Hunt page to create your own fun, learning experience.
2. Simple ideas for young children can include items in nature such as these: something smooth; something blue; 3 differently shaped leaves; something that smells; something that is hard; something fuzzy; a seed; something you can hold in your hand.
3. With older children, let them choose the subject in nature and research items to include in the scavenger hunt.
4. Use your collected items as the basis for future outdoor activities; homeschool lessons; and fun family activities.

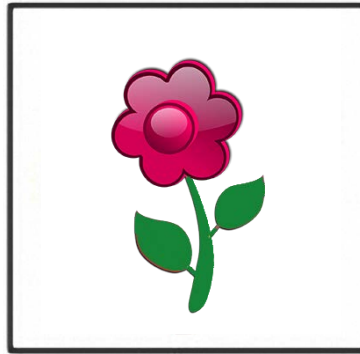
SCAVENGER HUNT



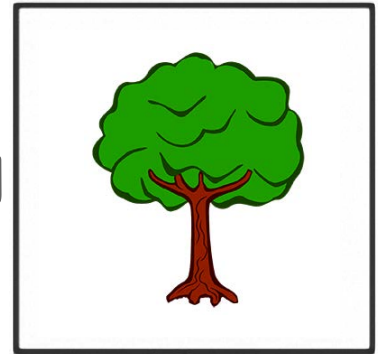
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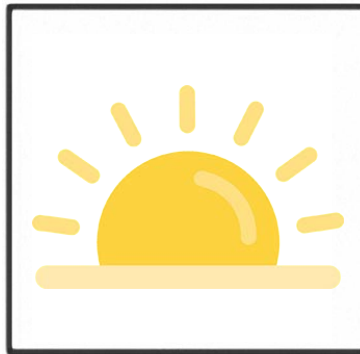
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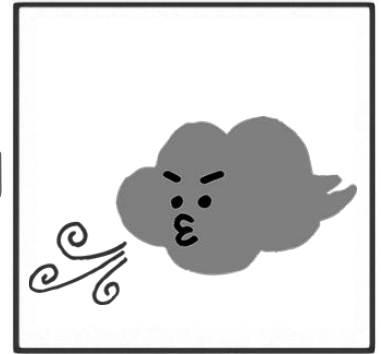
Flower



Tree



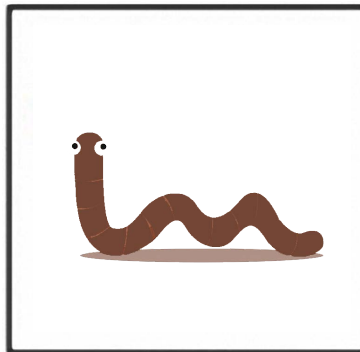
Sun



Wind



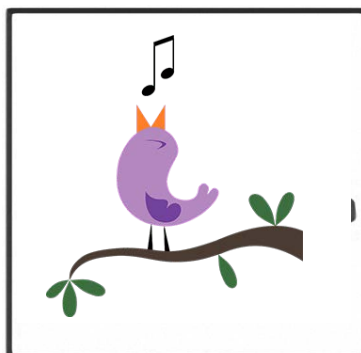
Butterfly



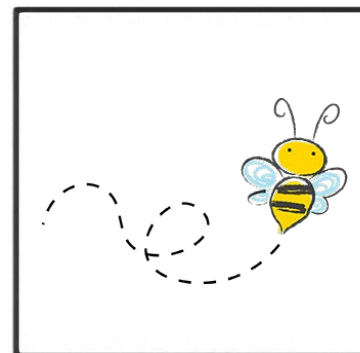
Worm



Bugs and Their Sounds



Bird



Bee



Rock

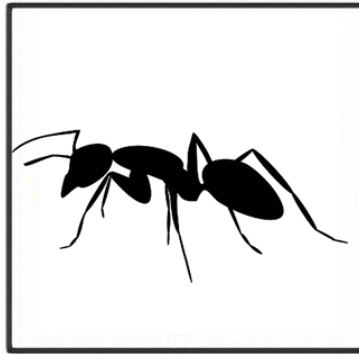
SCAVENGER HUNT

ABC BUGS

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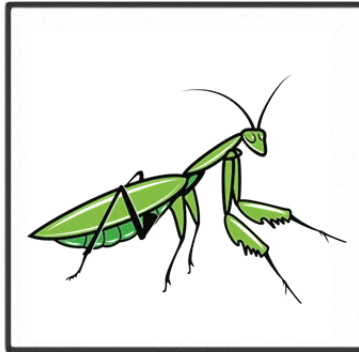
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Ant



Moth



Praying Mantis



Grasshopper



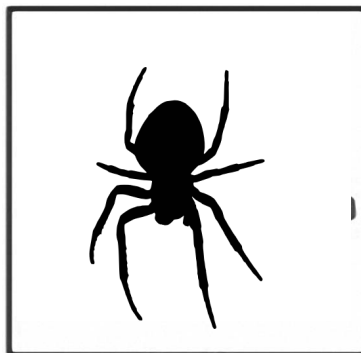
Butterfly



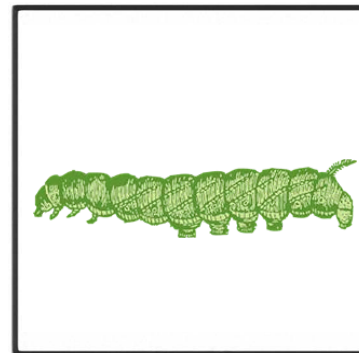
Dragonfly



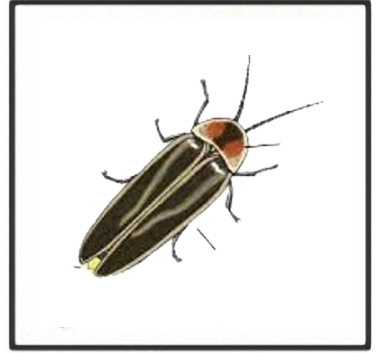
Ladybug



Spider



Caterpillar



Firefly

SCAVENGER HUNT



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Insect Tracks

☐

Flying Insect

☐

Millipede

☐

Animal Den (hole)

☐

Insect Home

☐

Reptile/Amphibian

☐

Animal Tracks

☐

Small Mammal

☐

Animal Home

☐

Something that smells

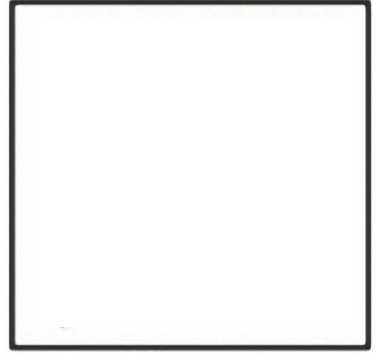
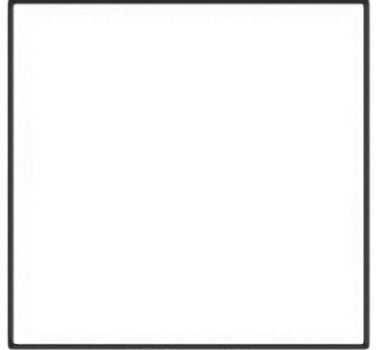
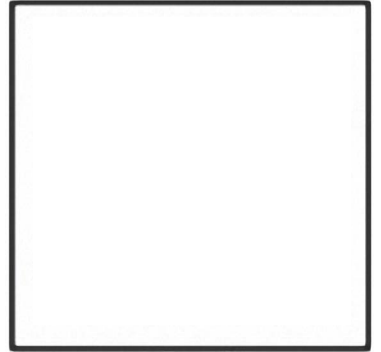
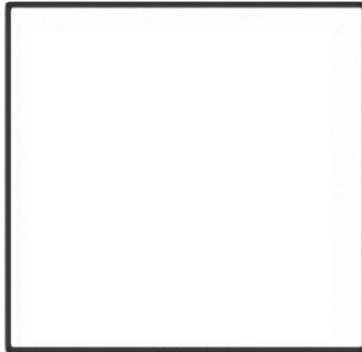
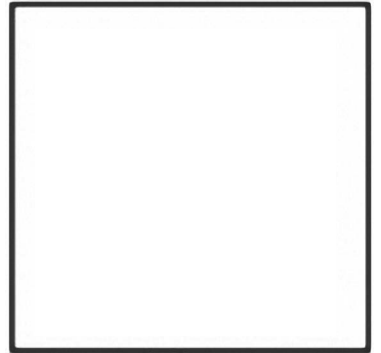
SCAVENGER HUNT



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SOUNDS OF NATURE

Like humans, animals have ears on opposite sides of their heads.
This helps identify the location of the sounds in nature.

STEP 1

Print our Sound Map. Have your child find a comfortable and safe space outdoors in your backyard, a park, forest or hiking area. Ask them to listen to the sounds around them. Closing their eyes will help them focus on the sounds, rather than the sights.

STEP 2

They can use pencils or crayons to make pictures or write words showing what the sounds are and where the sounds around them are coming from. TIP: Drawing lines connecting the "ME" in the center helps show the direction and distance of each sound.

STEP 3

When the Sound Map is completed, ask open-ended questions to foster discussion and further the children's understanding of (1) the different sounds in nature and how listening to nature's sounds can help animals stay safe; and (2) how people can better connect with nature and Earth.

STEP 4

Use questions like these to spark discussion and understanding.

1. Did sounds come from all directions or from one area more than another?
2. Which sounds were louder? Which softer?
3. What do you think made the different sounds?
4. Which sounds were made by nature (e.g., wind blowing, leaves rustling, water flowing, acorns or leaves falling from trees).
5. Were there any sounds not made by animals, insects, nature? If so, what were they and who or what made them?

FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES AT HOME

Lots of activities can extend the learning and offer opportunities to explore more about the sounds in nature. Examples: How do insects make noises? Do animals make a different sound to warn others? Identify the creatures that made the sounds the children heard. What other animal/insect sounds can they discover? Do animals out at night make different sounds than those around during the day? Do insects have ears? Do snakes and insects have ears? If not, how do they hear?

