



Nature Scavenger Hunt

Use our nature scavenger hunt sheets to discover the great outdoors and your own ecosystem!

Materials: pencil, nature scavenger hunt list, binoculars (optional)

What is an "ecosystem"?

An ecosystem is made up of all living and non-living things in a specific area.

"Living things" includes all plants and animals that make up the communities of life in an area. "Non-living things" include the water, rocks, soil, and sand in the area.

Examples of ecosystems are swamps, prairies, oceans, or a forest

An ecosystem contains so many different kinds of life! A grassland, for example, is an ecosystem that contains more than just grass! It includes other plants, mammals, insects, earthworms, and tiny living things we can't even see. Everything in an ecosystem has a role to play, even us!



The Challenge:

Go outside for a walk in your own backyard or any nearby green space. Use the checklist and see if you can find everything on it. Add things that make up YOUR own ecosystem.

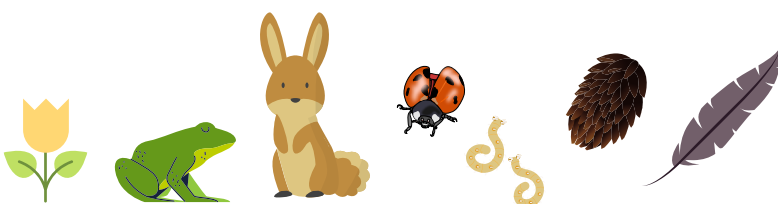
EXTENSION:

Do the scavenger hunt at night and compare what you saw and heard to your daytime one.



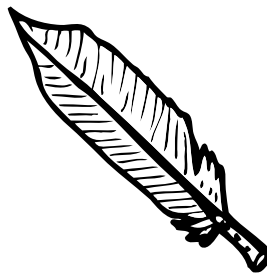
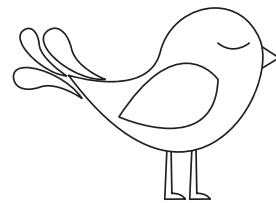
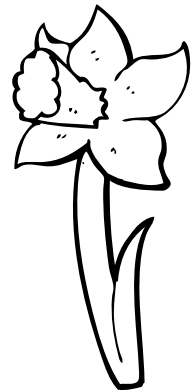
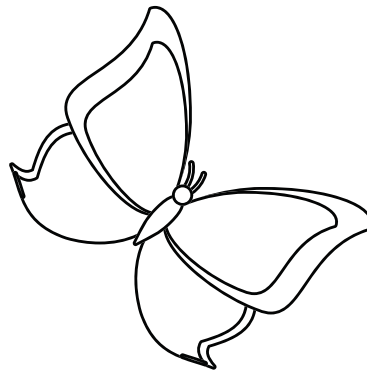
For discussion:

What part do WE play in our ecosystem?
How are some of the things we found connected to others?



Nature Scavenger Hunt

- Pine cone
- Leaf
- Something smooth
- Something rough
- A treasure (to you)
- Feather
- The sound of the wind
- Bird
- Bug
- Seed
- Cloud
- Small rock
- Water
- Flower
- Furry creature
- Bonus:
- A flying insect
- Animal footprints
- An energy source



Remember: Take only memories, leave only footprints!
(Leave nature in nature!)

