

Nature-Watch

www.nature-watch.com info@nature-watch.com 800-228-5816 Phone 800-228-5814 Fax

Wildlife

- 1. Skill Builders (2)
 - a. "Find a natural area that you can use as a field ecology study site. Conduct some observations. What did you see, hear, smell or feel? Record the date, time of day, temperature & weather conditions."
 - b. "Identify as many flowers, shrubs, & trees at a field ecology study site as you can. Sketch some. Using a field guide, record their names alongside your sketches."

Recommended Products:

Audubon Field Guide: Trees of the Eastern Region (#632w)
Audubon Field Guide: Trees of the Western Region (#632x)
Fandex Field Guide: Trees (#630b)
Fandex Field Guide: Wildflowers (#630a)
First Guide: Eastern Wildflowers (#612t)
Tree Flash Guide (#613n)

c. "Identify & record names of animals you see, or find signs of, at a field ecology site. Learn to recognize animal tracks. Try to follow an animal trail."

Recommended Products:

Ink 'n Stamp Animal Prints (#425a)
Animal Track Rubbing Plates (#422c)
Animal Track Rubber Stamp Set (#413t)
Amazing Animal Track Cards (#314c)
Mammal Tracks and Scat Guide (#642q)
Animal Tracks Set (#205z)

- d. "Select an animal to observe at a field ecology study site. Record the date, time, location & weather conditions. Observe behavior & how they interact with others of its kind."
- e. Put up several bird houses. Learn about box dimensions & entrance hole sizes for species you wish to attract. Discover why it is beneficial to have birds nearby.

Recommended Products:

Hummingbird Feeder Activity Kit (#157)

- f. Conduct an experiment to show how a plant reacts to its environment. Record and/or illustrate what happens during your experiment. Don't injure the plant.
- 2. Technology (1)
 - a. "Learn about how wildlife biologists study animals in the field. What equipment do they use? Is different equipment used for animals of the land, air or water?"
 - b. "Choose 3 species from the following: birds, mammals, insects, reptiles, amphibians, fish, trees, herbaceous plants. Use current computer technology to answer questions."
 - c. "Research how documentaries about wildlife are produced. Discuss ethical & practical issues related to photographing, filming or recording animals in their habitat."
 - d. "Find out how insecticides, herbicides & fungicides travel through an ecosystem. Create a visual display showing hazards of using these chemicals."



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3. Service Projects (1)

a. "Teach the meaning of the following words to younger Scouts: predator, prey, plant life, herbivore, carnivore, omnivore, scavenger, decomposer, wildlife community, food web."

Recommended Products: Food Chain Activity Kit (#146)

- b. "Contact a wildlife agency, club or nature center & volunteer your services. Participate in a project to restore a wildlife habitat by planting trees or cleaning a lot. Involve other scouts."
- c. Help make a nature trail at a camp or park more accessible.
- d. "Examine your own values & beliefs related to wildlife, the environment & evaluate possible actions you could take. Discuss an environmental issue important in your area."
- e. "With the help of your GS Council, survey one campsite. Inventory the property listing plants & animals found there. Highlight threatened or endangered species & the problems they face."

4. Career Exploration (1)

- a. Brainstorm 5 career choices involving wildlife & the environment. Contact organizations that might employ people & interview one of them. How did she get into this field?
- b. "Investigate what it means to be an ethnobotanist or cultural ecologist. Interview someone & ask what species she studies, what her background & training are, etc."
- c. Arrange to shadow a wildlife biologist or naturalist for part of a day to learn about the job.
- d. Investigate laws that protect wildlife around the world. How effective are they? Which group of people benefit from the sale of wildlife products?