

10
THINGS

Nature Expeditions for young Naturalists

A
Naturalist
is a Scientist who
studies nature and
makes observations
of change

- 1. Assemble an outdoor adventure backpack for nature expeditions**
Include a Nature Journal (notebook), paper clips, binoculars, scissors for cutting plants, pens and coloured pencils, magnifying glass, small field guides or electronic apps, tape, camera, torch, compass.
- 2. Discover nature in your own yard**
Write in your journal: the date, what things in nature you see, what is it doing, how does it move, sound, smell and feel? (We don't recommend tasting everything!)
- 3. Find animal or bird tracks and draw them into your Nature Journal**
Can you identify which animal or bird it was made from? Check a bird and/or fauna field guide or look up a free guide on your phone or ipad apps.
- 4. Go on a feather hunt. How many different feathers can you find?**
Stick the feathers in your Nature Journal. Do you know the name of the birds that the feathers may belong to?
- 5. Keep a moon journal in your Nature Journal**
Draw the different moon phases for the next seven days. Record the dates, times when the moon rises and sets. Also record, where you were when you saw the moon rising and setting.
- 6. Discover nocturnal animals (night animals) that live around you**
Head out with your torch and an adult at night. Shine your torch up into the trees and you may see some glowing eyes from the active night animals. Record your findings in your Nature Journal.
- 7. Build a nest big enough to fit you and some friends**
What might you recycle or use from nature to build your nest? Some birds like to collect plastic and fabric to make their nests look pretty. Take a photo of your nest for your Nature Journal.
- 8. Visit and explore a nature rich area in your neighbourhood**
Check your local council website for environmental areas to explore. Draw a map of the area you're going to explore in your Nature Journal. With your compass/GPS, record your longitude and latitude data onto your map. Take photos with your camera to add to the map later.
- 9. Go on a Geocaching outdoor adventure**
Remember to take your outdoor adventure pack for recording your observations. Find out more about Geocaching on Nature Play QLD website.
- 10. Identify patterns in nature and record these observations into your Nature Journal**
Patterns can be temporary (a rooster crowing), permanent (the sun rising and setting), or easily seen (the shape of a leaf or the spiral of a snail shell).



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Check out www.natureplayqld.org.au for more outdoor activities, things to do & places to go

