

Life All Over

Nature is everywhere! We just don't always notice it.

Summary:

Go outside or look out your window. It doesn't matter where you are, you will find evidence of something living. From plants in the cracks of a sidewalk to birds flying overhead, cities are full of nature. Start looking around to see what lives in your neighborhood!

Guiding Questions:

What do you see and hear around you? What is natural and what is made by people? How does nature or being outside make you feel?

Experience Goals:

- Notice what nature looks like in urban areas.
- Make observations on nature in your community.
- Get curious and ask questions.

Supplies:

- Bingo Card
- Pen/pencil
- · Optional: Camera

Steps:

1. Go Outside

- a. Grab your Bingo Card and pen/pencil and go outside!
- b. Can't get outside? That's okay! You can look out a window. How many items on the bingo card can you find from your window?
- c. You can also create your own bingo card based on the things you can see out your window. There is a blank bingo card on page 5. Challenge your family to find the items on your card!
- d. Always check with an adult before heading outside.

2. Look Around

- a. Take some time to look around you. What do you notice?
- b. Stand still for a few minutes and pay attention to what is happening. What do you see? What do you hear? Is there a unique smell?
- c. Once you start noticing living things, walk around and look for more!
 - Do you see anything that is built by an animal?
 - Are there items that don't come from living things?
 - Animals need food, water and shelter to survive. Plants need sunlight. Do you notice any of these?

3. Fill out the Bingo card

- a. Start looking for items on the Bingo Card.
- b. Try to find all the items! Where did you find them? Did anything surprise you?
- c. Mark off the box when you find an item. You can cross it off, draw it, or take a picture!
- d. What is hard to find? What is easy to find? Why do you think that is?

4. Discuss what you found

- a. Share your discoveries with a friend or family!
- b. How did the living things around you make you feel? Did any of it surprise you?
- c. Some animals have learned to live alongside people. Do you notice any ways animals use human things to help them? Maybe there is a squirrel getting food out of a trash can or a bird's nest made with litter!
- d. There are living things all around us! What can you do to help animals and plants in your community?
- e. Draw a picture or write a story about your adventure. Share it with someone in your home or email/mail it to someone.
- f. Share with us! You can email your discoveries to sciencehub@fieldmuseum.org. We would love to know what living things are around you!

5. Learn more!

- a. Excited to learn more about nature? Try these other activities from the Field Museum.
- b. Explore what other people have found in their communities on iNaturalist.org.
- c. Most importantly, keep observing the living things in your community! What are animals doing? How are plants changing? What new things can you discover?

Bingo card



Create your own Bingo:

