

Animal Signs Hike

Go outside to see what signs of animal activity you can find. Examine, but leave the objects where you find them, as they are part of nature!

- ___ 1. Nest (Bird or Squirrel? Can you tell if it is being used?)
- ___ 2. Holes (In a tree or the ground? What do you think made it? Why?)
- ___ 3. Tracks (From what? Where do you think they were going? Why?)
- ___ 4. Scat (Don't touch!) (Which animal left this? What had it eaten?)
- ___ 5. Feather (What does size, shape and color tell you about the bird?)
- ___ 6. Fur (Notice color, texture, length. What animal lost this? Why?)
- ___ 7. Stockpile of food (Eaten, or stored? Where's it from? Who left it?)
- ___ 8. Chewed branches or leaves (Was it eaten by an insect? Mammal?)

Close your eyes, stop moving and just listen for a minute. What sounds do you hear that tell you an animal is nearby?

- ___ 9. Birdsong (Do you recognize it? Does the sound help you locate it?)
- ___ 10. Wind (Which direction is it from? Does it carry sounds? Smells?)
- ___ 11. Water (How far would an animal have to go to get a drink?)
- ___ 12. Buzzing (What insects are nearby? What are they doing?)
- ___ 13. Crunching leaves or snapping sticks (What animal is nearby?)



Find a comfortable, quiet place to sit quietly for a while, to just notice what is going on around you. Use the back of this page to record your observations, thoughts and questions or do a simple sketch.