DISCOVERING NATURE

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About this 'Discovering' manual

This **manual** was created to assist you or your group in completing the 'Discovering Nature"

Kits are books written to specifically meet the requirements for the patch program and help individuals earn the associated patch.

All of the information has been researched for you already and collected into one place.

Included are crafts, recipes, coloring sheets, and

other educational information. These materials can be reproduced and distributed to the individuals completing the program.

Any other use of these programs and the materials contained in them is in direct violation of copyright laws.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Patchwork Designs, Inc. using any of the methods listed below.



Ordering and contact information

After completing the 'Discovering Nature Patch Program', you may order the patch through Patchwork Designs, Incorporated. You may place your order in one of the following ways:

Mail

Checks and Money Order:
Please send checks and
money orders, payable to
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Centreville, VA 20120

Credit Card

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orders@patchworkdesigns.net Email is not secure to send your credit card information. Though you can email orders if you have any questions about ordering.

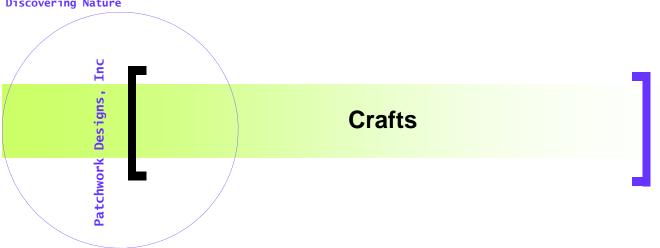
Online Store

Effective November 2006, customers may also order online through Patchwork Designs' website at: www.patchworkdesigns.net

All information is secure.

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Pinecone Turkey

Leafy Placemat

Leaf Rubbings

Rose Water Perfume

Dried Flower Sachet (no sewing required)

Nature House

Pet Rock- (Made out of smooth stones)

Dancing Butterflies

Fun in the Sun Art

Painted or Decoupage Flower Pot

Sit Upons

Birdfeeders- (peanut allergy alert!)

Bird Pudding

Pinecone Turkey

Items needed per participant: Pinecone Craft glue 3-inch piece of brown pipe cleaner Feathers



To make the head and beak, bend a 3-inch piece of brown pipe cleaner, and affix it to the top of a pinecone with craft glue. Glue three feathers near the base of the pine cone.

Leafy Placemat

Leaves and a plastic bag to collect them in Clear contact paper Construction paper (standard or larger) Markers Scissors Glue stick



Take a nature hike and collect leaves in a variety of sizes, colors and shapes. Prepare the remainder of the craft indoors.

Place the leaves on the construction paper adhering them with a glue stick on the back of the leaf. Be sure to use the glue sparingly. Have them write the names of the leaves, their name, or special designs with markers around the leaves.

Cut two pieces of the clear contact large enough to cover the construction paper overlapping about 1/4 of an inch around the edge. Remove the backing from one piece. Carefully place it overtop of the top of the placemat. Peel the backing off the second piece of contact paper and cover the back of the contact paper.

Leaf Rubbings

Leaves and a plastic bag to collect them in Crayons, wrappers peeled off White paper

Take a nature hike and collect leaves in a variety of sizes, colors and shapes. Prepare the remainder of the craft indoors.

Position leaves vein side up on the table. Cover with a white piece of paper. Select a crayon and peel off the paper wrapper. Turn a crayon on its side and gently rub over the top sheet of paper. The leaf images will appear on the paper.

Experiment with blending colors and using a variety of colors to create a vibrate piece of art.

Rose Water Perfume- Creates a sweet, natural smell of nature.

Fresh rose petals (from your garden or local florist)
Cool water
Glass jar with a lid
Strainer
Bowl

Optional: items to decorate jar



Write your name on the bottom of the jar. Fill your jar full of rose petals. Pour in cool water to cover all of the petals. Place your jar in the sun for 5-7 days. Place a strainer over top of bowl. Empty the jar into a strainer. It is recommended that you use a separate strainer and bowl since you will be using it for perfumed water. Shake the strainer up and down until most of the water is drained off the petals. Pour the water from the bowl back into the jar. Secure the lid and decorate with stickers or labels. Continue this process with each participant. Be sure to keep the rose water refrigerated until it is completely used.

Dried Flower Sachet (no sewing required)

6X6 piece of cloth (calico or muslin) (12 inch) piece of ribbon (this usually purchased by the spool for .99 or less) Potpourri or dried flowers



Take the piece of cloth and lay it flat. Place a small amount of potpourri in the center of the fabric.

Carefully fold up each of the four corners of the cloth, hold them together to form a small bag. The folding will create four more corners. Tie a piece of ribbon around the top of the cloth to close up the bag. Make sure there are no gaps in the sachet. Finish with a bow.

Nature House- These houses are created from items you find in nature. Never destroy anything in nature to create your home. Go on a scavenger hunt to gather on items on trails etc. Ask adults before you touch plants you have not seen before and don't eat any berries.

Sturdy piece of cardboard for the base (optional pieces of cardboard to glue natural items on)
Sea shells, tiny stones, acorns
Small twig pieces, bark from tree to use for structure of the house Dried flowers or potpourri from craft stores
Wood glue, string, air drying clay, etc. to hold the house together.



Place your cardboard base on a firm surface so you can begin creating your house. Arrange your sticks or bark to create a foundation for your house. Apply glue, string, or clay to the joints to ensure that they stay together. Wait for the house to dry before you add more items to the house. While the house is drying create walkways from stones, stools from acorns, little piles of wood for the fireplace, flower beds, or anything you desire.

Pet Rock- (Made out of smooth stones)

Acrylic paints in a variety of colors
Paint brushes
Clean smooth flat stones
Glitter
Newspaper or plastic tablecloths (for painting and glitter)

The participants can hunt for their own pet rock or you can provide them with stones to paint. Make sure if they chose one of their own outside that they wash and dry the rock prior to painting it. Let them create a face, patterns of swirls, flowers, etc. They can only paint one side at a time until it is

dry.

Dancing Butterflies

Transparent plastic material (used typically for plastic tablecloths) available by the yard in purple, yellow or pink.

pipe cleaners (black)

yarn

Cut the plastic material into six inch squares. After the pattern is cut out, pinch the center together and wrap a pipe cleaner around the area to secure the center. Hang a piece of yarn from the center of the butterfly. Attach to the ceiling and watch your butterflies dance.

Fun in the Sun Art

Sunny day Construction paper, dark colors only Items from your nature hike or front yard



Choose items that lay flat like leaves, twigs, grass blades, etc. Lay construction paper outside in the sun. Arrange items on the paper to create your work of art. Wait about an hour and remove the items. You will see the paper has faded around the objects and created a remembrance of your discovery of nature. Note: There are also fabric and sun paint to experiment with, creating bandanas, or t-shirts with sun imprints.

Painted or Decoupage Flower Pot

Terracotta pot Acrylic paints or decoupage glue Paintbrushes

Paint the outside of the pot a base color of your choice, at least two coats. Begin decorating your pot with a variety of designs such as swirls, flowers, leaves, sayings, etc. When you're finished decorating your flower pot, let it dry thoroughly, before you plant a flower in the pot.

Older participants may wish to decoupage the outside with magazine clippings, printed paper etc. instead of painting the outside. Follow the directions on the decoupage container, layering the pictures and glue around the outside. Place a final layer of mod podge or decoupage glue around the outside. Let dry for 24 hours.

Sit Upons

Vinyl tablecloth material 3- hole punch Yarn Newspaper Sharpie marker



Pre cut the vinyl tablecloth 30 X 30. Fold each piece in half so that you have a 15x15" sit upon. Place folded newspapers inside.

Use a 3-hole punch to punch holes around the perimeter of the sit upon, about a half inch from the edge. Depending on the age of the participants, you can have them punch the holes, or you can help them. You may also wish to sew up the sides on the sewing machine and just have them lace up the top of the sit-upon.

Have the participants use the overlay stitch and run the yarn through the holes overlapping the edge of the material as they go. Have them write their name on the outside and they are ready go outdoors or sit in front of the fire roasting a marshmallow.

Birdfeeders- (peanut allergy alert!)

Pinecone
Peanut butter
Bird seed
String
Spoon and paper plate



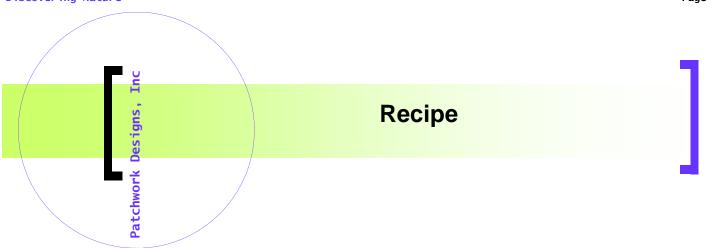
Have the participants take a spoonful of peanut butter and place it on the pine cone evenly. Continue until it is placed evenly. Place a generous amount of bird seed on the paper plate and roll the cone in birdseed. Tie a string to the top end and hang it outside. This craft is not recommended for participants that are allergic to peanuts.

Bird Pudding

Lard
1 cup of hot water
2 cups of oatmeal
1 cup of flour
4 cups of bird seed
Large pot and mixing spoons
Pinecones or bird feeders



Place the lard in the large pot over medium heat until it is softened. Add remaining ingredients and mix well. Have the participants take a spoonful of mixture and place it on the pine cone evenly. Continue until it is placed evenly. Tie a string to the top end and hang it outside.



Baked Cinnamon Apples on a Stick

Banana Boats

Fruit Cobbler in a can

Instant Chocolate Pudding

Trail Mix

S'mores

Trail Bars

Chicken Pockets

Pig in a Blanket

Scrambled Eggs in a Bag

Granola

Cup of Dirt

Cup of Dirt Made Easy

Other Editable Items for You to Enjoy

Baked Cinnamon Apples on a Stick

- 1 Jonathan or Rome apple for each person
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1 tablespoon cinnamon

Push a stick or dowel through the apple top until the apple is secure on the stick. Place the apple 2 or 3 inches above hot coals and turn the apple while roasting it. As the apple cooks, the skin browns and the juice drips out. When the skin is loose, remove the apple from the fire (but leave it on the stick). Peel the hot skin off very carefully.

Combine sugar and cinnamon. Roll the apple in the sugar-cinnamon mixture, then return it to roast over the coals, letting the mixture heat to form a glaze around the apple. Remove from coals and let it cool.

Banana Boats

4 bananas, unpeeled

1/2 cup chocolate chip pieces

1/2 cup miniature marshmallows

Cut a wedge-shaped section in each banana. Pull back peel. Remove wedge-shaped piece of banana. Fill cavity with chips and marshmallows. Replace peel over filling. Wrap securely in heavy-duty foil. Heat about 5 minutes over coals until chocolate and marshmallows melt. Serves 4.

Fruit Cobbler in a can

1 can of sliced peaches or cubed pineapples, in syrup Jiffy yellow cake mix

Remove the entire paper label from a can of fruit. Open the can and pour the syrup out into a cup. Sprinkle several tablespoons of dry Jiffy Yellow Cake Mix onto the peaches in the can. Pour just a little of the syrup back over the peaches and dry cake mix. Replace the lid on the can and then place the can onto a grate over a hot campfire. Let the cobbler cook for about 10 to 15 minutes, until the crust is crumbly and the peaches are bubbly. Serve the cobbler out of the can.

Instant Chocolate Pudding

1 small box of chocolate pudding1 cup powered milk4 plastic containersspoons1 1/2 cup of waterice chest or refrigerator

Divide one small box of instant chocolate pudding into the four plastic containers. Add 1/4 cup powdered milk to each container. Add 1/2 cup of water to the mixture and stir, seal and close. Place in an ice chest or refrigerator for a few minutes until the pudding sets. Open the container and enjoy pudding with a spoon.

Trail Mix - You will need 1/4 cup of each selection to create the mix.

Peanuts or mixed nuts

M & M's

Raisins

Dried fruit

Plastic ziploc sandwich bags per person

(optional) marshmallows, chocolate chips, banana chips, mini pretzels, cereal, sunflower seeds, etc.

Place selection in a separate bowl. Have each person spoon out a handful of each and place it in their ziploc bag. After they have added all the selections, seal the bag and shake up the mix. It is now ready to eat, take on a hike, or road trip.

S'mores

Ingredients needed per person

- 2 Graham Crackers
- 1 Marshmallow
- 4 squares of Hershey chocolate bar

Toast marshmallows over coals. Break chocolate bar in half. Place on top of graham cracker. Sandwich marshmallows between the chocolate bars and graham crackers.

Trail Bars

1 cup butter

1 1/2 cups packed brown sugar

1 cup quick cooking oats

1 cup whole wheat flour

1 cup white flour

1/2 cup wheat germ

4 teaspoons grated orange peel

4 eggs, lightly beaten

2 cups whole almonds

1 cup chocolate chips

1/2 cup chopped dates

1/2 cup chopped dried apricots

1/2 cup shredded coconut

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Cream butter with 1 cup brown sugar. Stir in oats, wheat flour, white flour, wheat germ and orange peel. Press mixture into bottom of an ungreased 13 x 9-inch baking pan.

Combine eggs, almonds, chocolate chips, dates, apricots, coconut and remaining 1/2 cup brown sugar. Mix gently, but thoroughly. Pour over butter mixture. Spread evenly in pan. Bake 30 to 35 minutes and cool before cutting into bars.

Chicken Pockets

1 boneless skinless chicken breast
1 potato, washed and sliced
Sliced onion
3-4 fresh mushrooms, cleaned and sliced
1 handful of green beans, cleaned and snapped
Salt, pepper, etc., as desired

Place the chicken breast on a large square of heavy-duty aluminum foil. Season chicken and add layers of sliced potato, mushrooms, onions and top with asparagus stalks. Wrap dinner in aluminum foil, folding on the top. Place chicken-side-down on hot coals, turning after about 20 minutes. After another 10 minutes or so, unwrap one dinner and slice chicken to test for doneness. Un wrap dinner and serve warm.

Pig in a Blanket

canned biscuits
Hot dogs
aluminum foil

Take a biscuit from the can, flatten and stretch it so it fits around the hot dog. Wrap in foil and cook for about 15 minutes.

Scrambled Eggs in a Bag

2 eggs

diced ham or lunchmeat of their choice Optional: diced onions, mushrooms, etc.

Each participant should take a large Ziploc freezer bag and put in all the ingredients they want in their omelet. Each person will "scramble" their omelet by squishing the bag with their hands until it is all mixed. Next, in a large pot of boiling water, place the bags (one or two at a time) and move them around with a large spoon for 4-5 minutes, until you think the eggs are done. Pour the omelet onto a paper plate or mess kit pan, and you have breakfast.

Granola

2 bananas, peeled and diced
1/4 cups dates, pitted and chopped
1/4 cup packed brown sugar
1/4 cup hot water
1 tablespoon vanilla extract
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
8 cups quick cooking oats
8 ounces dried mixed fruit
8 ounces blanched slivered almonds

Preheat oven to 250 degrees F. Puree the bananas and dates in a food processor. Add the brown sugar, hot water, vanilla and cinnamon; mix well. Pour mixture into a large mixing bowl, add oatmeal and mix well. Spread onto large baking sheets and bake at 250 degrees F for 1 to 1 1/2 hours stirring frequently. Cook longer for crunchier if desired. Once cooled add the dried fruits and nuts, as little or as much as you want, and mix. Store in airtight container

Cup of Dirt

1 package of Oreo or chocolate sandwich cookies

1 large package of instant chocolate pudding

1 box of graham cracker crumbs (optional)

Gummy worms (optional)

Cups (clear cups work better if you would like to see the layers of the dirt)

Spoons

Prepare instant pudding as directed on package, refrigerate.

Remove the cream from the chocolate sandwich cookie and discard. Place the black halves of the cookies on a firm, clean, surface and crush well. Set aside in a bowl. Place graham cracker crumbs in a bowl.

Remove pudding from refrigerator and place a generous helping at the bottom of the cup. Tap the cup on the counter to level the pudding in the cup. If you choose not to use the the optional layers, then simply layer the pudding and Oreo crumbs until the cup is full as desired. Make sure you top with cookie crumbs.

Otherwise, layer as follows with optional items:

Begin with chocolate pudding, place graham cracker crumbs, pudding, a worm, chocolate crumbs, pudding and continue with items until your creation is complete. Refrigerate until ready to serve.

Cup of Dirt Made Easy

1 package of Oreo or chocolate sandwich cookies Chocolate pudding cups Gummy worms (optional) Spoons Cup (to place excess pudding in)

Peel off the top cover of the pudding cup and discard. Spoon out a enough pudding from the cup to sprinkle some cookie crumbs on top. If you are placing gummy worms in the pudding do so before placing the crumbs on top. Be creative and have the worms hanging over the edge. Serve your creations and dig in!

Other Editable Items for You to Enjoy

Rock Candy- purchase from Patchwork Designs, Inc or local vendors. We offer bulk pricing on candy sticks starting at .75 cents and going lower as you order larger quantities.

Rocky Road Ice Cream-purchase in your local grocery store.

Nature Cupcakes- Decorate the cupcakes with festive seasonal colors adorned with sprinkles or candy in the shape of leaves.

Nature Cookies- Cut out flowers, leaves, or animals with cookie cutters. Decorate in seasonal colors adorned with sprinkles

Create a book about Nature using a file folder.

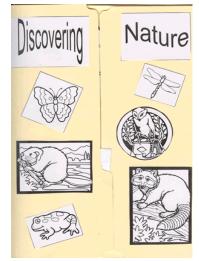


<u>Step One: Prepare</u> Copy all the template and booklet pages for each participant. Have them color where needed and cut along the outside lines. Instructions are included on each page.

<u>Step Two: Gather your supplies</u> Participants will need glue sticks and scissors to create and mount the templates or booklets in the file folder.

<u>Step Three: Create the front cover</u> Fold the file folder in to form a book. (shown below) Using the template # 1 and template #2 to create the front cover of the book.

FRONT COVER closed



Embellish the outside of your folder by coloring the background the images that they cut out and placed on the cover

Step Four: <u>Completing the inside</u> Distribute the booklet patterns for the inside of the book. See the below picture for placement. If you have time, make sure they color all the items prior to cutting them out. You do not need to complete all the booklets to earn the patch.

Booklet #1-Flower Booklet

Booklet #4

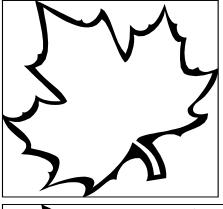
Booklet #3-Insect Booklet



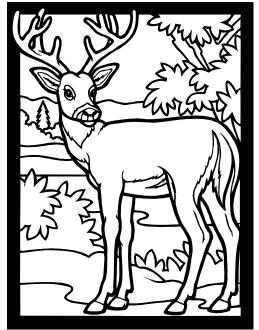
Booklet #2- Leaves and Trees

Booklet #5-Mammals and Birds Booklet

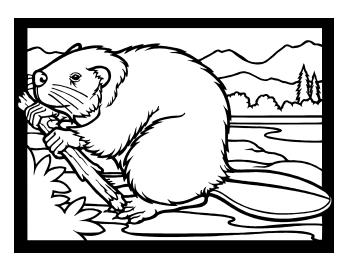
Discovering Nature

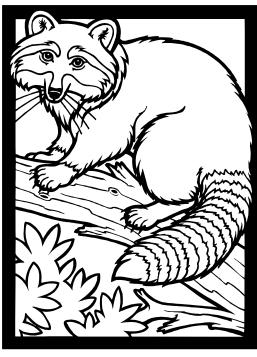




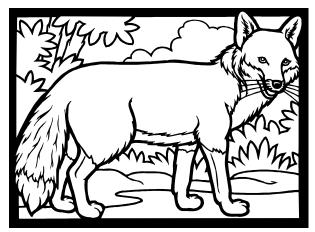


Choose animals, wording, or leaves to decorate the front of your book. **Template #1**

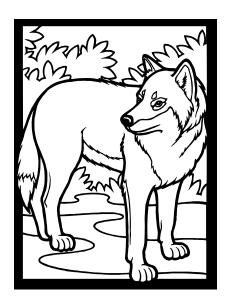


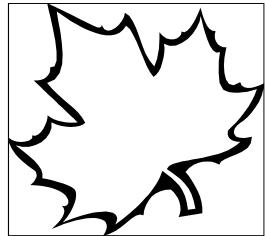


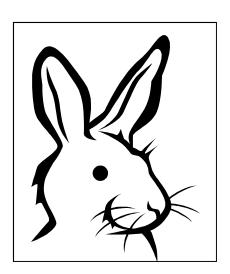
Page 14 **Discovering Nature**

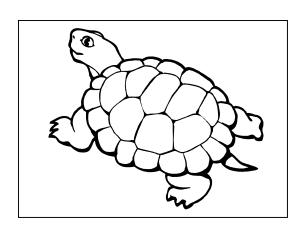






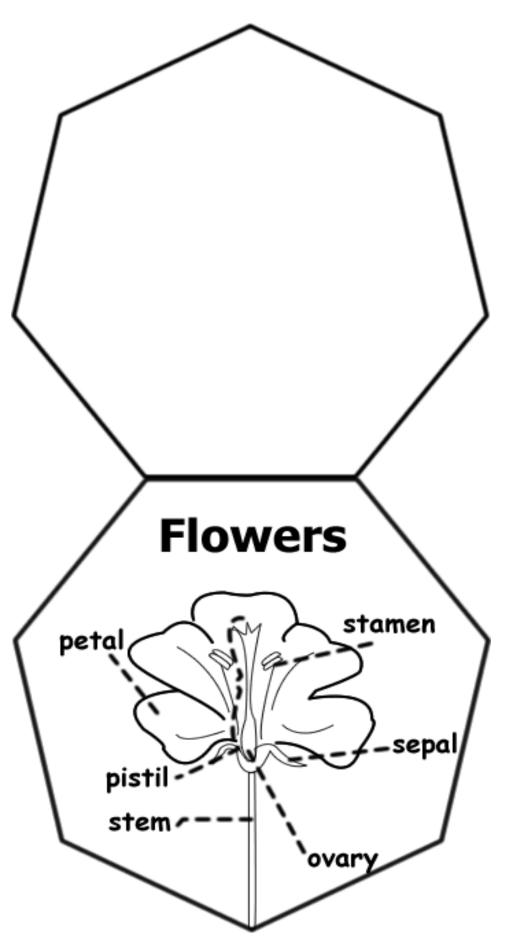




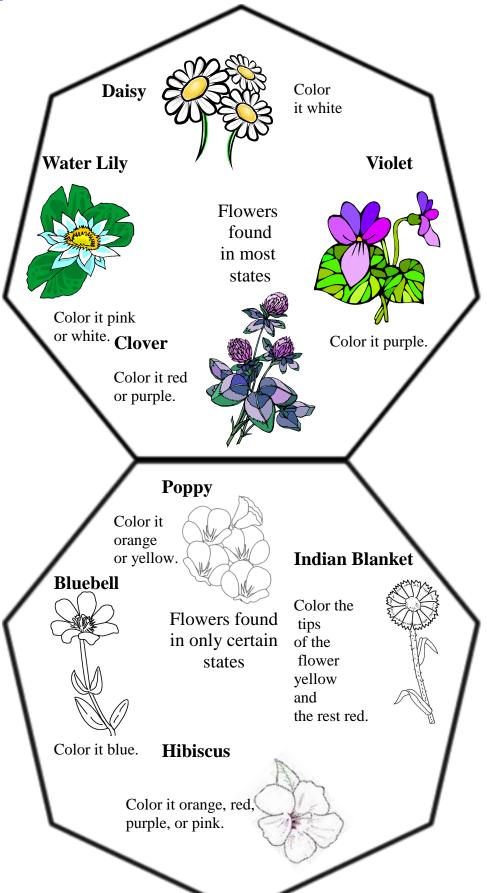


Choose animals, insects, or leaves to decorate the outside of your book.

Template #2



Cut out the above shape around the lines. Booklet # 1.



can read the words. Cut this page out and glue it inside booklet # 1. Make sure it is glued in the correct direction, so when you open the book you **BOOKLET #2**

Fold the flap inward



Leaves and Trees



Fold the flap inward

Parts of a Tree

The **crown** is the top of the tree. This is where you will find the leaves and branches.



The **trunk** is the stem of the tree. It is protected by bark.

The **roots** are underground. They absorb water and nutrients from the earth. They also hold the tree in the ground.



Sugar Maple

This tree's has a sap is used to create maple syrup. They grow 60 to 100 feet tall.



White Oak

Oak trees grow all across the United States. They grow 80 to 100 feet tall



Walnut

he nuts are eaten by squirrels. They grow 70 to 90 feet tall



Paper Birch

This tree grows mainly in the northern United States. It has a white bark.



Tulip or Yellow Poplar

Tulip like flowers appear in the spring. Grows mainly in eastern United States.



Red Oak

Broad-eaf

The acorns are eaten by birds like turkeys and blue jays. They grow 50 to 90 feet tall

Conifer or Evergreen trees stay green all year. They have needleshaped leaves.





Deciduous or Broadleaf trees have leaves that turn colors and eventually fall off when the weather becomes colder.

Palm trees can be seen in tropical areas in the United States. Some palm trees produce fruit such as coconuts. They stay green all year long.







Frogs are amphibians That means they live on

the land and in the water. They have long back legs that allow them to jump. They eat insects and catch them with their long sticky tongue.

Newts are amphibians that grow to about 3 to 4 inches long. When they are young they breathe with gills. As they become an adult, they develop lungs to breathe with. Their skin color ranges from brown to green.

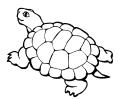
Turtles are reptiles. They are great swimmers but tend to move slow on land. They have a hard shell on their back that protects them from danger. Other turtles can bite or scratch

Fish are animals

that live in water and breathe using gills. They use their

tail to swim.





you if you get too close.

Amphibians, Reptiles, and Fish

BOOKLET # ယ

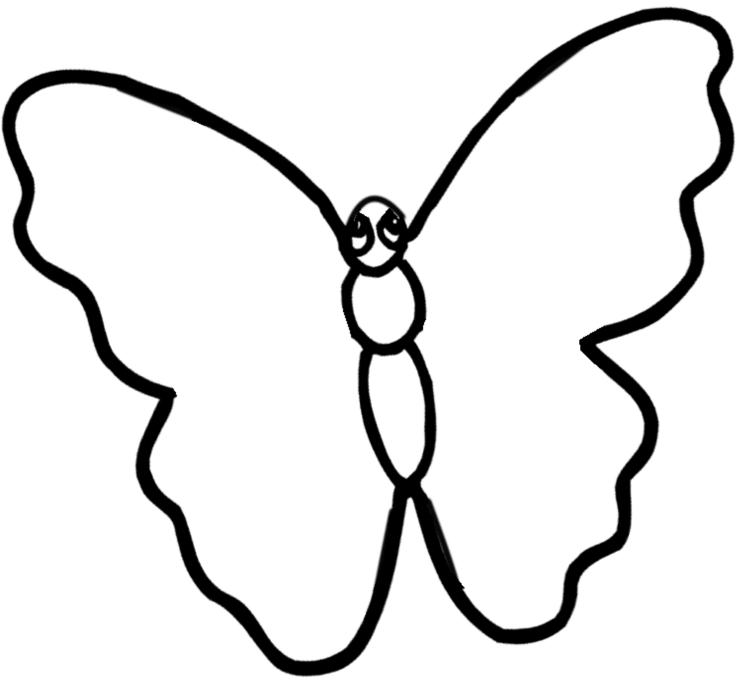
rection, Cut this

so when you open the book you can read the words.

page out and glue it inside the booklet # 3 cover. Make sure it is glued in the correct di-

Fold it in half and

glue it in your



Booklet #4

First, color the butterfly wing.

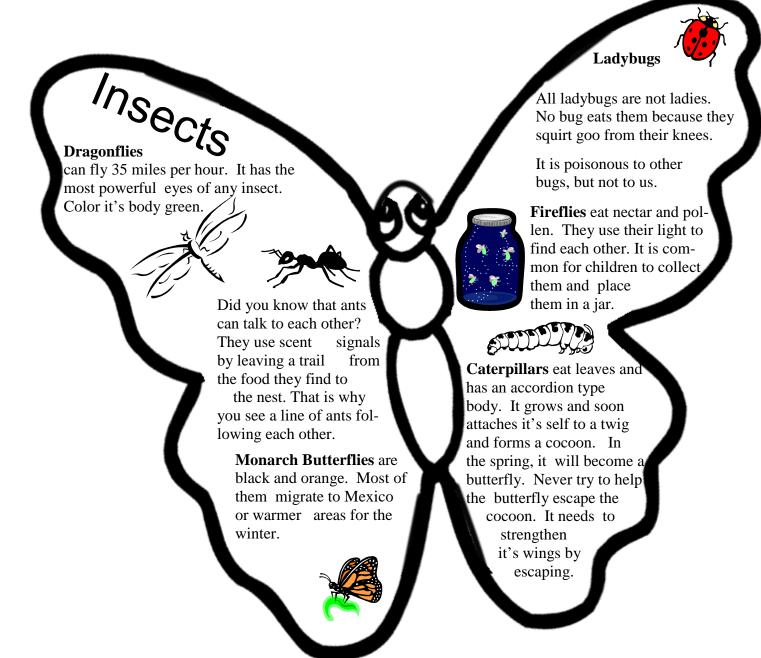
Then, cut out the butterfly.

Make sure you DO NOT cut them through the middle.

This is will create a book shaped like the butterfly.

Glue the information located on the next page inside this decorated cover. Fold the butterfly in half. Place glue on the back of the folded butterfly and place it inside your folder on the left hand flap.

Note: The inside and outside will not match up perfectly around all the edges.



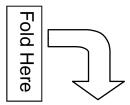
Cut out the butterfly on this page

Make sure you DO NOT cut through the middle.

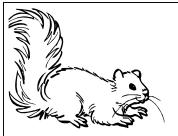
Glue this information inside the butterfly located on the previous page. Fold the butterfly in half. Place glue on the back of the folded butterfly and place it inside your folder on the left hand flap.

Note: The inside and outside will not match up perfectly around all the edges.









Squirrels can run about 12 miles an hour. They eat nuts and seeds. Different species can fly, squeal, or live in the dessert or forests.

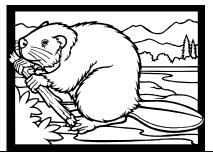
Racoons have black patches around their eyes and a striped tail. The remainder of their body is gray. They live in forests and are active at night.



Beavers chop down trees with their strong teeth. They use trees to build dams. Their flat tail helps them be strong swimmers. They can be underwater for up to 15 minutes. They begin saving food in the spring and live in their lodges during the winter off

Did you know that **rabbits** thump there hind legs on the ground to warn other rabbits of danger? They have long ears and fluffy tails. Some can run as fast as 20 miles an hour. Differ-

ent species can change color according to the season or live in the dessert.





Cardinals are red birds that are mainly found in eastern United States.



Eagles catch their food over the waters. They are white and brown.



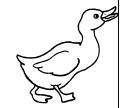
Seagulls fly along the sea looking for food. Color the bird gray.



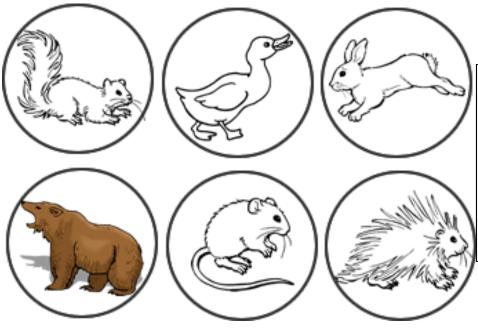
Owls are brown birds. They have large eyes with sharp vision and hearing. They hunt mainly at night.



Hummingbirds eat nectar and tiny bugs. They get their name from their "humming" sound of their wings when they fly. Color it's belly red and the wings green.



Ducks live near ponds. Color it gray or brown.



<u>Items need to play the game.</u>

Game Pieces
Dice
Game board
Question Cards
Animal Track Cards

How to play the Discovering Nature Game.

This game is for 2-6 players.

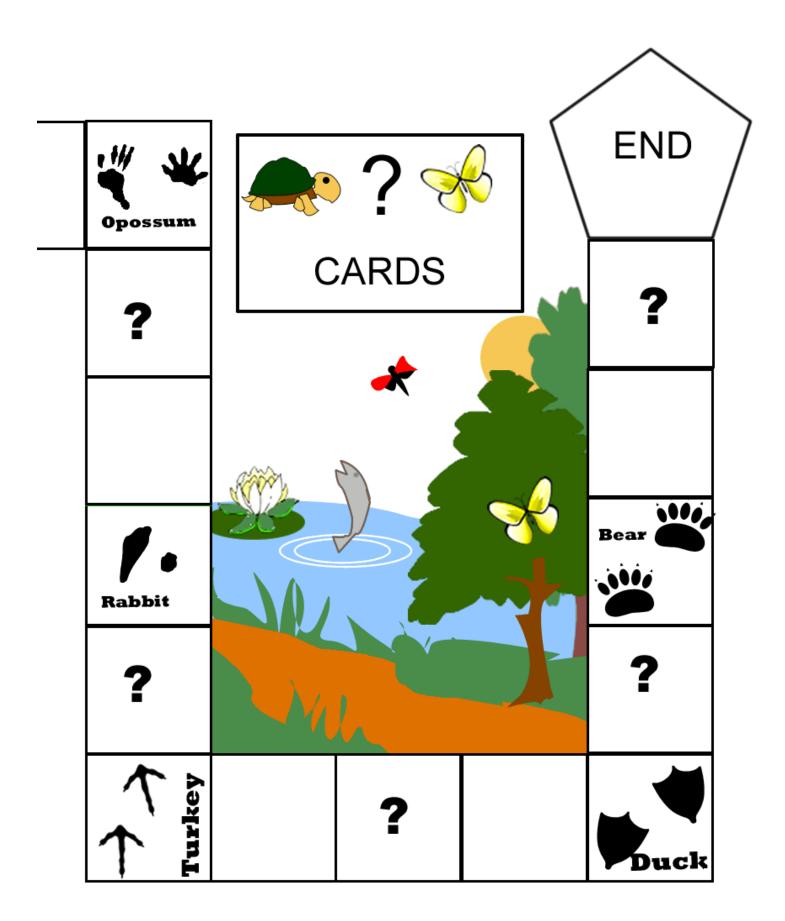
- 1. Connect the two board pieces together with tape. If you would like to color the board you may.
- 2. Cut out the animal track cards and place them on the board where it states "Animal Track Cards."
- 3. Cut out the Nature? cards and place them on the board where it states "? cards."
- 4. Have each participant roll the dice. Whoever rolls the highest number goes first. Turn order continues in a clockwise motion.
- 5. If a participant lands on an animal track, then they draw an animal track card. You need three animal track cards to make it to the finish line. You can move backwards or forwards in order to capture an animal track card.
- 6. If the participant lands on a ? then they will have to answer a question about nature from the "nature ? cards." The player to the right of the participant must ask the question. If they answer the question correctly then they receive an animal track card. If they do not answer the question correctly then they need to give up one of their animal track cards and place it back in the animal track card stack. If they don't have any animal track cards, then they move back one space. Once the ? card has been read, place it on the bottom of the stack face down.
- 7. The object of the game is to make it to the end with three animal track cards.

Please note the participants should complete the Nature Kit prior to playing the game so they can answer some of the questions.

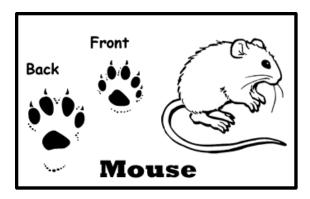


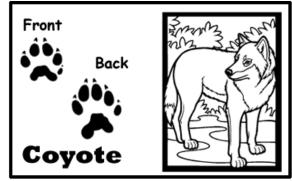


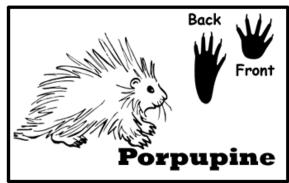
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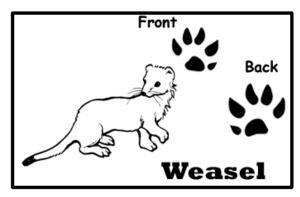


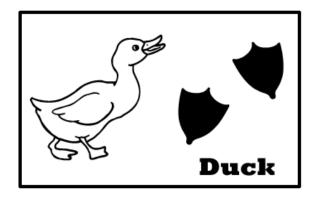
Animal Track Playing Cards

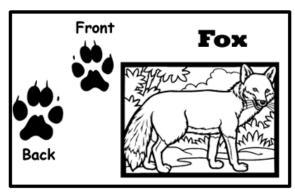


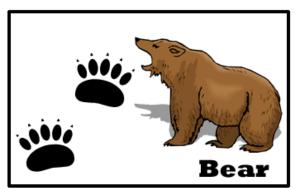


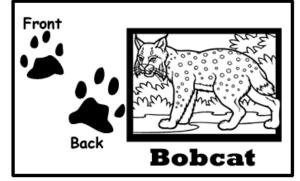




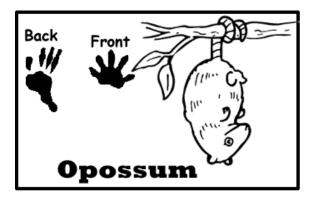


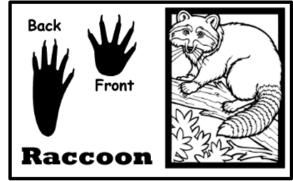




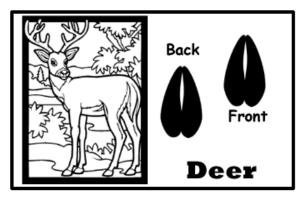


Animal Track Playing Cards

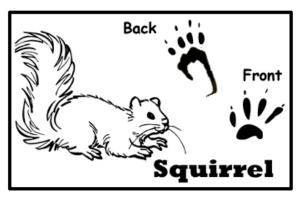


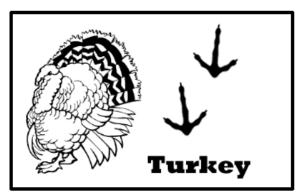














Question Cards

Cut out each card and place it on the game board on the spot marked "? Cards".

Can an amphibian li∨e on land?

Yes, they li∨e on water and land.

Name two flowers.

Answers will ∨ary according to area they li∨e.

This insect was once a caterpillar. What is it now?

Butterfly

Name two animals that lives in the forest.

deer, moose, squirrel, bird, bea∨er, etc.

Name the insect that glows in the dark.

lighting bug or firefly

Name one thing that squirrels like to eat

nuts, fruits, berries, insects, or mushrooms.

True or False?

Some species of squirrels can fly.

TRUE- the flying squirrel

True or False?

The snowshoe hare can change color according to the season.

TRUE

Question Cards

Cut out each card and place it on the game board on the spot marked "? Cards".

True or False.

Ducks use their feet to swim in the water.

TRUE

These type of trees can be seen in tropical an warm climates.

palm trees

True or False.

Ants can talk to each other.

TRUE

These type of trees stay green all year long.

conifer or evergreen trees

Turtles are ____.
They li∨e on land and water.

reptiles

These type of trees have leaves that turn colors in the fall.

deciduous or broadleaf trees

What animal thumps their hind leg to alert enemies are in the area?

rabbits

Name a part of a tree.

crown, root, trunk, leaves, bark, or branches.

Question Cards

Cut out each card and place it on the game board on the spot marked "? Cards".

What do fish use to breathe with?

aills

What color are cardinals?

red

How long can beavers be under water?

up to 15 minutes

How did hummingbirds get their name?

from the humming sound their wings make when they fly.

Where can you see seagulls the most?

Along the sea.

When do owls hunt the most?

at night

This animal is very active at night. It has a striped tail and patches around their eyes.

raccoon

Where do monarch butterflies migrate to?

Mexico

DISCOVERING NATURE PATCH PROGRAM

All levels need to only complete 3 requirements

- 1. With your family or group plan an outing in nature. This can be an outdoor hike, biking, cookout, picnic, park program, OR a creation of your own.
- 2. Prepare a snack or food fit for outdoor enjoyment. Make sure you make a list of all the items needed for preparation and equipment needed for storing or cooking items. Some examples of foods are trail mix, granola mix, dried fruit and nuts, smores, roasted hot dogs, OR nibblers such as pretzels, rice cakes, and crackers
- 3. Think about where you live and your environment. What type of plants or flowers grows in your area? What color are they and what shape leaf do they have? For example if you live in the desert you will have different items to observe than someone that lives near the wilderness. Choose 3 items to observe or research through books or the Internet. For extra, find out the parts of the flower, plant a flower, landscape a garden, or design your own flower.
- 4. Most places on earth have deciduous trees or broadleaf trees. That means during the changing seasons the leaves on these trees change colors and eventually fall off. Other areas may only have needle leaf trees or palm trees. Choose 3 leaves or trees to observe in nature or research through books or the internet. For extra, create leaf rubbings, look for fallen leaves, that have insect bites, learn more about the seasonal changes of trees, or the rings of a tree.
- 5. Birds are animals that have wings, feathers and a beak. Some can fly while others cannot. There are a variety of birds in nature from owls to cardinals. Observe a bird in nature or research one through books or the internet. For extra, create a birdhouse, identify your state bird, or look for habitats of birds. Never disturb the nest or eggs.
- 6. Create an art project that depicts nature. Some examples are leaf rubbings, decorating a clay pot, nature box, gluing rocks, dried flowers, and twigs on a wooden box, stationary, OR drawing a picture of nature, animals or insects.
- 7. Fish are animals that live in the water. The fish found in nature use their fins to swim and breathe with gills. Learn more about a fish that is indigenous to your area, such as the color and shape.
- 8. Amphibians are animals that spend some of their life in the water and other half on the land. Some examples are frogs, toads, salamanders, or newts. Learn the lifecycle of the frog, the difference between a toad and a frog OR two different species of an amphibians.
- 9. Insects are called arthropods. They have segmented bodies and hatch from eggs. These animals range from beautiful flying insects to small crawling creatures. Choose to observe in nature, research through books or internet OR look for signs of insects on leaves OR learn more about the life cycle of a butterfly. Examples of insects are a butterfly, beetle, ant, bee, dragonfly, grasshopper, firefly, ladybug, moth, and walking stick.
- 10. How do animals defend or protect themselves? Many animals camouflage in their environment. This means their color or pattern blends into habitat to protect them from their enemies. Some spray a smell; have a protective shell, or quills that protect them. Name one animal and their special tactic they use to survive.
- 11. There are a variety of mammals to view in nature. They usually have fur or a protect coat and their habitats range from trees to caves. Never disturb an animal's habitat or approach an animal. Look for signs for animals in nature and if you listen you can hear the scurry of a rabbit or leap of a deer.
- 12. Turtles and tortoises are reptiles found all across the earth. Learn more about turtles or another reptile, such as where they live and what color they are.
- 13. Participate in a community service project involving nature. Some suggestions are river clean up, volunteer as a Junior Ranger, adopt a highway, landscaping, create a birdhouse, plant a tree or flowers, recycle, OR help correct an erosion area.

Resources

Websites:

http://plant-aterials.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/plantid/woodies/broadleaf.html

http://christmas.allrecipes.com/az/Granola.asp

http://www.care2.com/channels/solutions/outdoors/599

http://www.dclunie.com/eshelton/wildflow/wildind.html

http://www.joycesfinecooking.com/camping_packet_recipes.htm

http://www.recipegoldmine.com/camp/camp.html

www.enchantedlearning.com

http://www.recipestogo.com/camp/camp.html

http://www.netwoods.com/d-cooking.htm

Books:

Boring, Mel, Burns, Diane, Dendy, Leslie., <u>Fun with Nature</u>, NorthWord Press, Inc, Minnetonka, MN, 1999.

Games and booklets were created by using the imagination of the creator and facts from the above resources and exploring nature.

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