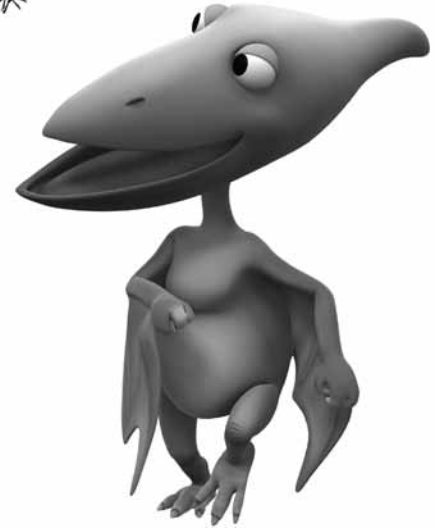




Monthly Challenge

November



Introduction:

As Nature Trackers across the United States, we all live in different neighborhoods, each containing its own unique natural world. By recording your individual neighborhood's natural features you can create your own scientific study about what lives in your area. These kinds of observations are very helpful in noticing the changes over time such as, the changing seasons or when new plants or animals start to show up.

Challenge:

Take your first step as a Nature Tracker and create your very own *Neighborhood Field Guide*! Make time to walk around your neighborhood with an adult and record the different kinds of plants, animals, bugs, rocks, and anything else natural you see. You can sketch drawings or paste in your own photos of the natural items in your neighborhood. Use the Sketchbook Sheet to record your findings.

Extensions:

1. Don't forget the details! Highlight the individual characteristics of your natural observations. What do the leaves look like on each tree? What special creature features do you see on the animals or insects in your neighborhood?
2. Continue to add to your *Neighborhood Field Guide* over time. Does anything change? Do you see any new plants or creatures? Take a neighborhood walk once a month with your adult to see how your neighborhood thrives year round. You can use the Chart Sheet to record any differences by month. Try making a chart for the amount of birds you see each time you take a walk.

Call Out to City Kids!

If you live in an urban environment you can still do this challenge! City streets can have nature too, and city parks are a great place to see even more nature. You can record the city trees, animals and insects around your neighborhood too. If you feel your block has inadequate nature, then head over to your closet park and create a Neighborhood Park Field Guide. You may be surprised at how much nature you can track there.

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Jim Henson
THE JIM HENSON COMPANY



's Neighborhood Field Guide

Draw your observations in the boxes below.

Plants:



Trees:



Bugs:



Animals:





Color in a square for each bird you see.



Number of Birds I Saw:

January February March April May June July August September October November December

1														
2														
3														
4														
5														
6														
7														
8														
9														
10														

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