



Create a Field Guide

GRADE 6

LESSON DESCRIPTION

Students don't have to look far to find a diversity of living things. Have students zero in their scope in the backyard and search for as many species as they can find. This activity outlines a project to engage students by creating their very own backyard field guide.

SUGGESTED CURRICULUM LINKS

Diversity of Living Things: 6-1-04, 6-1-08, 6-1-10, 6-1-12

LESSON

A field guide to the backyard can be prepared as an online project or on a more traditional medium such as a sketching notebook.

1. Have students visit their backyard or a nearby greenspace and record as many plants, insects, spiders, birds or mammals as they can using drawing or photography.
2. Students research one or two species in each category to make the field guide more informative. Pictures as well as personal accounts of experiences they've had with the species can add zest to the guide.
3. The field guide project could be presented in class view in an online gallery.

Birds are returning from their southern winter habitats to Manitoba in the spring. Observe two different bird species and compare and contrast their characteristics: size, shape, colour, flight, movement, feeding behaviour. Research the birds to find out nesting habitat, and other important facts.

[FortWhyte Alive Bird Identification Key](#)

[All About Birds: Online Bird Guide](#)



How do you say "observe" in Anishinaabemowin?

To observe/study:
Naagadawaabam (animate)