

Tuning in

Use the following activities to tune into the natural world around you.

- Materials needed: See each individual activity below
- Grades 4-7 S 15-60 minutes, depending on activity

Backyard life

Materials: Notebook or notepad

Time: 15-20 minutes

Go to your backyard or window and find a comfortable spot to observe the life happening right in your backyard.

How many species can you see in 5 minutes in your sit spot?

Use your nature journal to describe or draw what you are seeing.

Animals and plants can be counted. If you don't know the names of types of birds or plants you can just describe them eg. tree with papery bark, small black bird, bird with red chest.

Think about big and small things. Loud and guiet animals. Behavior and environment.









What can you see out your window?

Crocus count

📵 Materials: Nature journal and pencil, pencil crayons or markers, perhaps a camera or phone

Time: 20-60 minutes

Setting it up

Head outside to your backyard or take a walk around your neighborhood to count spring blooms.

Have you noticed some spring flowers popping up in your yard or neighbourhood? Or perhaps they have been up for many days now. (If the flowers are yet to emerge where you live, you can also look for other signs of colour in nature.)

Investigation

Count all the spring flowers that you can see on your neighbourhood walk or from your sit spot.

Sharing/Reflection

How can you show how many are of each colour, using math skills? (fractions, percentages, charts (such as a pie chart).