



Campbell Creek Science Center

Create Your Own Field Guide

A field guide is a book with pictures and descriptions that help you identify the plants and animals you find outside. Explore your yard or a nearby natural space and create your own field guide of what lives there.

Directions

1. Prepare your field guide by printing the cover and multiple copies of the observation page.
2. Go outside and record observations about the different living things you find. Include:
 - **Name:** What type of plant or animal is it? If you do not know the species, use your notes to look it up later.
 - **Time & Date:** When did you observe the plant or animal?
 - **Size:** How big is it? Use a ruler, or estimate its size.
 - **Habitat:** Where did you find it? In the woods, on your lawn, perched in a tree?
 - **Drawing & Description:** Draw a picture of the living thing. Include as much detail as you can. Make notes about additional details you notice.

Red squirrel eating a spruce cone.



Tail curls over its back.
Light ring around eye

- **Field Notes:** What else do you notice about it? What makes it different from another plant or animal? How does it behave?

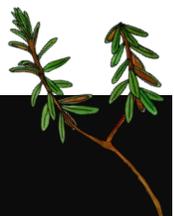
Materials

- Printout of field guide pages, or paper to make your own
- Colored pencils, crayons, or markers

Questions

- What did you find that you had not seen before? How were you able to find out what it was?
- What page order for your guide makes the most sense to you?

Take a friend outside and use your field guide to identify the things you see together.





U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management



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FIELD GUIDE

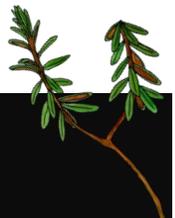
to

(Location Studied)

Author Name: _____



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Plant or Animal Name: _____

Time & Date: _____

Size: _____

Habitat: _____

Drawing & Description:

Inches

0
0.5
1
1.5
2
2.5
3
3.5
4
4.5
5
5.5
6

Field Notes:



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