



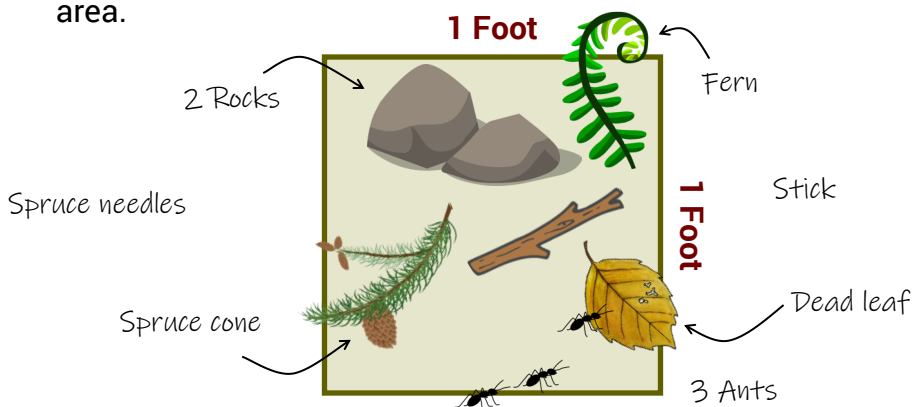
# Campbell Creek Science Center

## Square Foot Safari

Focusing your attention on a very small area can turn up all sorts of interesting surprises. What might you find in one square foot at your feet?

### Directions

1. Go outside to an interesting natural area. Consider a forest, garden, or simply your backyard.
2. Use a ruler and some rocks, sticks, or string to mark out a square that is one foot on each side (one square foot).
3. Make a list of everything you can see on the surface of your area.



4. Look a little deeper! Start picking through the leaf litter or whatever else is at the surface to find out what other things are there. Write notes about what you find on a piece of paper or in your nature journal.
5. When you're finished, carefully replace everything you moved so that the area looks as untouched as possible.
6. If you want, repeat steps 1-5 in another area. How do your two study areas compare?

### Materials

- Ruler
- Sticks or string to mark out one square foot
- Pencil and paper
- Magnifying glass, small trowel, nature journal (optional)

### Questions

- How many different types of plants did you find?
- What new things did you notice when you looked deeper?
- Did you find any insects or worms in your square? Where did you find them?

