



Play Day at the Hilliard
Cozy at Home



Nature is All Around Us: Two Scavenger Hunts

You do not have to visit a park or the woods or the countryside to experience nature. Look carefully down at the sidewalk under your feet. Even in the spaces between the concrete a whole universe exists—plants are growing and among the plants are very small insects and under the plants lives an entire community of organisms that allow life to thrive in that tiny space. Above your head birds sweep through the air to capture insects for their breakfast. Nature is all around us!

Nature Scavenger Hunt

For safety's sake, we omitted the sense of taste!

Record What You Find!

Look	Find something colorful Find something heart-shaped Find four of the same thing Find something that is surprising to you	
Listen	Find something loud Find an animal sound Find something that crunches Find something you can make music with	
Touch	Find something soft Find something that is bumpy Find something that is wet Find something prickly	
Smell	Find a smell that you don't like Find a smell that you do like Find a flower with a scent	



“What’s Left Behind” Scavenger Hunt

Even though we may not often see animals in our backyards, it is their home also. Look around for signs that critters have been there!

Record What You Find!

Find a leaf with holes that show that something has eaten upon it. Do you think an insect or a mammal or a snail ate it for lunch?	
Find an acorn or a nut with a portion of its shell gone. Does it look like a mammal chewed on it or did an insect drill a hole?	
What evidence can you find that a bird has been in or over your backyard?	
Some animals dig in the ground to look for their food. Can you locate any holes that could be the result of digging for insects or worms, etc.?	
Some birds drill holes in trees to look for insects to eat or to sip upon tree sap. Do you see any holes in tree trunks that might be made by birds?	
Animals make their own homes. It can be a hole in the ground or in a tree, or a nest woven of grasses or branches. Find an animal home. What do you think lives there?	
Insects will sometimes lay their eggs enclosed in protective coverings (often white or tan fibers) to hatch in spring. These are often tucked away in sheltered places such as under leaves, the eaves of your house, or a bench.	

Activity submitted by Susan Hester Edmunds, Kamana Naturalist Student, Wilderness Awareness School, Duvall, Washington and Louisiana Master Naturalist graduate.

