



Earth Day Nature Scavenger Hunt

Take a stroll in your backyard or community to survey nature's recyclers and see how you can make a natural difference in your community! Getting outside everyday will go a long way to better mental and physical health for you too! Look on the back for details!



1. oak leaf



2. litter



3. squirrel



4. fungus



5. Berries



6. bird



7. recycling



8. wildflower



9. worm



10. fern



11. Sapling



12. dead tree



13. collecting trash



14. bicycle



15. stump



16. Insect

Earth Day Exploration: Fun Facts

1. Nature does not make litter! Decaying leaves on the ground decompose and add vital nutrients back into the soil.
2. Wear gloves when you pick up litter. Put soda bottles in the recycling bin.
3. Squirrels may forget where they buried over ½ of the acorns they stored for the winter making them one of nature's reforesting heroes!
4. Most fungi are decomposers, returning nutrients to the soil.
5. Some native berries are edible for humans, but many are not. Always confirm with a knowledgeable adult before you harvest wild fruit.
6. Wildlife, such as cardinals, depend on seeds from native plants to thrive. Look online for beneficial plants for wildlife to include in your yard.
7. Recycling is one important step to helping keep the planet healthy. So are reducing use and reusing materials.
8. Native wildflowers are lovely and provide sustenance to native species. Consider these when planting flowers around your home. Many spring flowers such as daffodils, tulips and hyacinths are not native.
9. Native earthworms are heroes of the forest. They eat fallen leaves, make holes in the soil which brings water to plant roots and return to the surface to leave their waste.
10. Some native ferns stay green all year. They are an excellent choice for stabilizing the ground to reduce erosion.
11. Plant a tree for a greener tomorrow or find one growing naturally. Be sure to thank it for providing the world oxygen and cooler temperatures!
12. A dead tree, or a snag, provides important shelter for creatures big and small. Don't poke your finger in the holes!
13. Safely collecting trash today is one way to help your furry, feathered, scaled and human neighbors have a healthier tomorrow.
14. Ride a bike or walk instead of riding in a car when you can. You will help the air quality while enjoying some exercise!
15. A tree stump can be home to many insects and provide a roof for underground animals. If not too rotten, take a moment to sit a spell!
16. Peek under a log for Bess beetles, termites or other creatures that eat wood. These animals recycle the wood in the forest into healthy soil.