

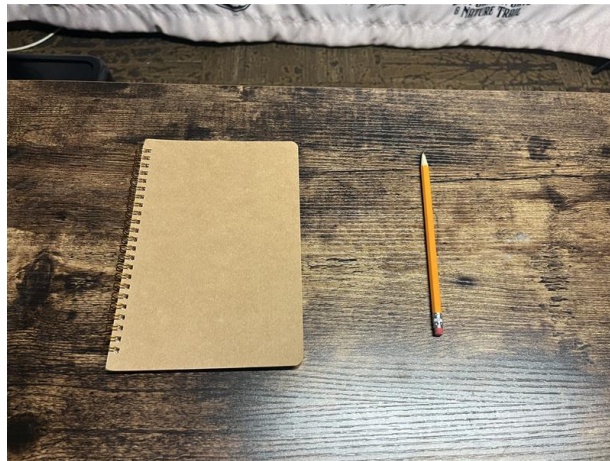
MISSION CONSERVATION ACTIVITY GUIDE

April 2025 – Citizen Science

Citizen science is the method in which ordinary people can contribute to scientific research, as well as vital data collection that can benefit conservation efforts all around the world. A lot of citizen science revolves around data collection, like with the iNaturalist app we will be using for our outdoor activity.

Indoor Activity: Indoor Animal Observation

This is a good exercise for developing the observation and data collection skills citizen scientists use. And you don't have to go outside or use technology to do it!



Materials:

- Journal.
- Writing Utensil.

Procedure:

1. Find an animal to observe! This could be a squirrel or a bird that lives outside your window, or it can even be a household pet!
2. Watch the animal and see what it does in different parts of the day. You could watch it in the morning, in the afternoon, late at night, it doesn't matter. So long as you can clearly observe the animal.
3. Record whatever behavior stands out the most to you. How they eat, how they play, how they just spend their time in general. When studying animals and recording their behavior, there is no such thing as useless data.
4. Continue recording for a set amount of time. It could be a week, a month, even a whole season. After you're finished, look back and see what you've learned about the animal you've studied.

MISSION CONSERVATION ACTIVITY GUIDE

April 2025 – Citizen Science

Outdoor Activity: iNaturalist

Technology has made participating in citizen science projects easier than ever before! With apps like iNaturalist, you can scan and identify plants and animals in your area. You can also engage with other citizen scientists and contribute to actual scientific research!

Materials:

- Mobile device with internet connection.
- Parent or supervising adult.

Procedure:

1. Download the iNaturalist app. Make sure you have a parent or supervising adult with you as you do this activity.



2. Open the app. Create an account, or choose one of the alternate login options it lists for you.

The image shows the iNaturalist login screen. At the top, there are two buttons: "Sign Up" and "Login". Below these are two input fields: "Username or email" and "Password". A green "Log In" button is positioned below the input fields. At the bottom, there is a link that says "Forgot password?".

3. Read terms and conditions and select the options that you feel most comfortable with.
4. Look at the map, you will see your location as well as the various discoveries people have made in your area.

MISSION CONSERVATION ACTIVITY GUIDE

April 2025 – Citizen Science



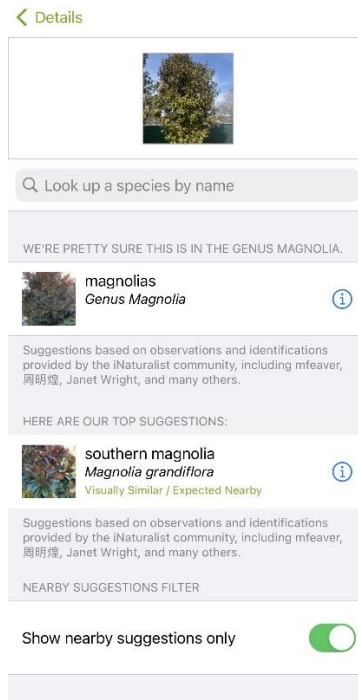
5. To contribute, hit the observe button, then select the camera option to take a picture. or select gallery to select a picture you've already taken.



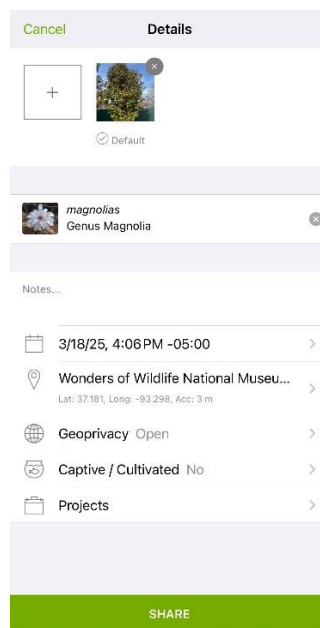
6. When you take a select a picture, it will likely give you a suggestion based on the apps own analytics, as well as nearby observations made by other citizen scientists.

MISSION CONSERVATION ACTIVITY GUIDE

April 2025 – Citizen Science



7. After you select the species, you then make sure that all the info you have is correct, then you hit share! Now all the other citizen scientists in your area can view your findings too!



We hope you enjoyed the activity guide this month! Don't forget to check out us at home mission for this month! To see a list of our other missions, or to learn more about Wonders of Wildlife, visit us at <https://wondersofwildlife.org/mission-conservation/>