

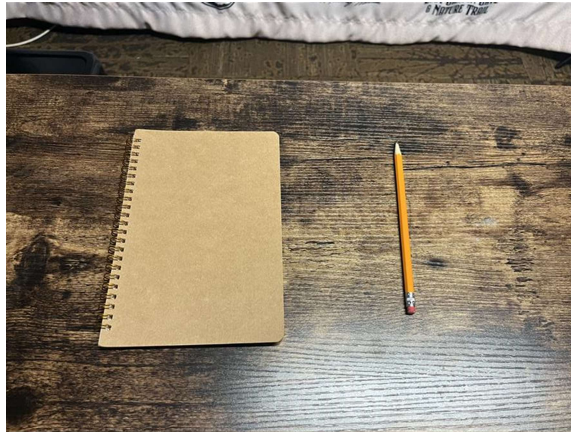
MISSION CONSERVATION ACTIVITY GUIDE

March 2026 – Citizen Science

Hello agents! This month's theme for Mission Conservation is Citizen Science! Citizen science is where ordinary people get the opportunity to contribute to scientific research. Citizen science is extremely important for conservation research. Citizen scientists can also contribute to research in the fields of chemistry, biology, astronomy, medicine, and many others!

Indoor Activity: Outdoor Animal Observation

This is a good exercise for developing the observation and data collection skills citizen scientists use. For the best results, we recommend visiting a park, a hiking trail, or one of your local conservation areas. You can find this info online on your state's conservation site!



Materials:

- Journal.
- Writing Utensil.

Procedure:

1. Once you get to the area, make a note in your journal of where you are visiting, on what date, and at what time. This is important data for scientists to track when studying animal behavior.
2. Observe the animals around you. What are they doing? What are they eating? How are they reacting to different parts of their environment.
3. Write down what you think is important and interesting. Remember, it's always better to have too much information than too little!

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Indoor Activity: Contribute to Citizen Science

Over the last few decades, citizen scientist opportunities have grown exponentially. Devices such as smart phones and laptops have given almost everyone the opportunity to contribute to a variety of scientific fields. Today, we're going to show you where you can find many of these opportunities.

Materials:

- Computer/smartphone with internet access.
- Parent or guardian.

Procedure:

1. Go online and find a citizen science topic that aligns with your interests! Here are a few websites that can help you.
 - a. [Zooniverse](#) Has a lot of amazing opportunities for different citizen science projects. At the time of this worksheet there are 73 opportunities available, ranging from arts to astronomy.
 - b. [Citizen Science at NOAA](#) NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) always has at least a handful of citizen science opportunities, much of which can be completed at home!
 - c. [Citizen Science Projects - NASA Science](#) While there's plenty of astronomy centered projects, there's also a lot of weather and conservation centered projects as well.

We hope you enjoyed the activity guide this month! Don't forget to check out the 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/>.