

Silent Nature Scavenger Hunt

Use your eyes for color, texture and shape.

Use your fingers for hardness, roughness.

Use your nose for smelling.

(No tasting unless you know its edible for sure!)

Use your ears for sounds of bugs, birds, lizards, wind.

We have 12 senses too. Feel the sense of direction NSEW. Is the space energizing or draining?

Read the instructions below then create sign language for the questions with your family.

Let the children lead the adults - If they lie on the ground then so should the adults!

For each question – score a point for each minute of quiet engrossed observation.

Plants

How many different shapes of leaves you can find – 2 pts for each shape

A leaf that had been chewed on by an insect – 2 points per leaf from each unique plant

Are the leaves on bushes, trees, or plants? If you crush the leaves, is there a smell?

Observe the different barks on the trees – rough, smooth – what color? Does it smell?

Explore a decayed tree limb – what critters live on or under it? 2 pts per insect type

How many different kinds of flowers? 5 pts for each type

What colors? Do they have a smell?

What is its habitat? (in grass, shade, sun, chapparal, under oaks?)

Insects

Watch an ant trail: 1 pt for each minute.

Follow an ant to its home: 3 pts.

Observe insects like a bee or a fly or a spider.

If you feel fearful remember how much bigger you are than the bug! Breathe slowly and observe where the fear rises. Then just be curious about what you see the insect doing.

How many types of insects can you see? 3 pts per insect type

Listen to sounds of insects – how many different sounds can you hear? 5 pts per unique sound

Birds

How many types of birds can you find? 3 pts per type

Watch a bird – 1 pt for each minute. Imitate its sound.

Reptiles

Find a lizard – notice where it lives, what is it doing? 5 pts

Wind

Listen to the sound of the wind in the trees – is it steady? Soft?

Do you hear squeaking from the trees rubbing? 1 pt for each minute of listening

Dirt

What is the dirt like - Sandy, rocky, rich leaf compost? Does it have a smell?

Bonus points: find a lizard skin or snake skin 7 pts, bird feather 3 pts, animal scat 5 pts