

The Natural World of Haverhill: All Ages Activities and Resources

Video Activities

[Animals Storytime 1](#)

Recommended for PreK – 1st Grade. A reading of *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?* by Bill Martin Jr. and *Thanks to the Animals* as told by Passamaquoddy storyteller Allen Sockabasin. Available through 6/30/2020.

[Animals Storytime 2](#)

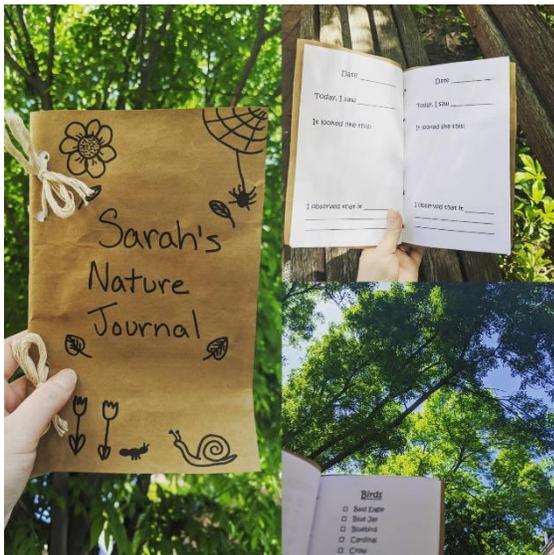
Recommended for 1st – 3rd grade. A reading of *Wings in the Wind* by Julia Walsh. Available through 6/30/2020.

[How to Make Cardboard Binoculars](#)

Recommended for PreK – 3rd Grade. Use these binoculars to have a fun home safari, looking for stuffed animals and other “animals” around the house, then take them outdoors and see what more can be found!



Nature Journal Craft and Activity



This activity can be adapted for any age range. Kids may enjoy making and decorating their own journals, which can be simply done using a paper bag and printer paper. Blank journal pages can be used for kids who want more self-direction or customization in their journal format, but we have also created sample log pages for both older and younger kids, as well as a few checklists to get them started on tracking animals.

[Nature Journal Craft Instructions](#)

[Nature Journal Pages](#)

Teens and adults are encouraged to grab a blank notebook and try nature journaling too! A more

scientific format could include noting the common and scientific names for observed plants and animals as well as recording the date, time, and location of the observations. A more artistic route might involve sketching observed plants and animals, making rubbings of bark and leaves, copying poems or favorite quotes about the natural world, etc.

Resources

Kids:

[Wings in the Wind Activity Packet](#)

From the author's website, this packet includes coloring pages and information about saltwater marsh wildlife and plants.

[Backyard Junior Ranger](#)

Part of the Essex National Heritage Area's [Heritage at Home](#) initiative, this resource contains more activities, coloring pages, and a particular focus on the resources of Essex County. Submit your completed activities and become a Backyard Junior Ranger!

Teens and Adults:

[The Urban Bestiary: Encountering the Everyday Wild](#) by Lyanda Lynn Haupt

The author may be writing from the West Coast, but the animals featured in her book are among the most common and can be found throughout much of the United States. In fact, a surprising variety of animals live out their lives alongside us in urban and suburban areas.

["How to be a Backyard Birber,"](#) the *Outside/In* podcast, a production of NHPR

This episode will show you the ropes so that you can start birding at home. They also provide some coloring pages of New England birds, for bird lovers of any age.

Birding Articles

[How to Keep a Birding Journal](#): Explains how to tailor your nature journal specifically to birding.

[7 Tips for Watching Birds During the Spring Lockdown](#): Tips on spotting, identifying, and observing birds.

[Build Your Birding Life List](#): Describes ways to develop your backyard birding into a lifelong hobby.

All Ages:

[Mass Audubon](#)

Not just for birders! They have a wide variety of resources about the natural world. We particularly recommend their excellent series of [Outdoor Almanacs](#) to aid nature lovers of all ages in tuning into plants, animals, and natural events that can often be observed over the course of each month.

[iNaturalist](#)

Ready to take it to the next level? Become a citizen scientist! Both kids and adults can contribute their observations to this scientific data collector. Their handy app can also help you make identifications and log observations in the field.