



## Today's Featured Activity: How to be a Nature Photographer!

If your child has access to a digital camera, tablet, or smart phone, they can become a nature photographer! Learning how to take good nature photographs provides another opportunity for families to get outside and look more closely at the world going on around you. While going out and taking pictures of the scenery or landscape is great, a fun thing to do with children and teens is to be a little more specific, sharing photo assignments and seeing what the world looks like from a different point of view!

Here's some ideas for getting started:

1. **Bug's eye view:** pick an insect that you've seen around your yard or neighborhood. Pretend to shrink yourself to their size (anyone remember *Honey I Shrunk the Kids*'?!) Take pictures looking up a blade of grass, or if you're a honeybee, coming in for a landing onto a flower. Craft a story using the pictures from your bug's eye view pictures about the adventures of your new friend.
2. **Meet your neighbors:** have you ever really noticed how much life is going on all around you? Take some time and really start looking around for all the

creatures that share your yard or neighborhood. Try and get photos of as many of them as you can. This could be the start of a [mini-Bioblitz](#), if you use the [iNaturalist](#) or [SEEK](#) apps to document all the species you see. Feel a little overwhelmed by finding all the animals? Break your assignment up into categories to make it easier! Spend one day taking photos of birds, the next insects, and so on!

**3. Patterns and colors in nature:** look for different patterns or shapes in nature, like spirals, waves, repetitions, cracks, spots, or stripes. Take pictures of only green or red or purple things. Whatever you chose. see how many different patterns you can find or how many of the same! Look for man-made versions of the same patterns and compare these with the natural patterns you photographed.

If you're able to visit one of our Public Conservation Areas you can participate in our first [Annual Photography Show](#)! Kids under 18 just need a parent's permission to participate.

No camera? No problem! Any of these activities (with the exception of the photo show!) can be done as a journaling project! Take your journal and pencils or crayons outside and draw what you're seeing. To help focus on what you're looking at, take a piece of cardboard or construction paper and create a "frame" to provide you with a field of view to draw.

Did you do this activity? Post a photo on Instagram and tag @clctrust or use #clctrust.

Have suggestions for activities you'd like to see? [Send us an email!](#)