

Quick Tips for Observing Nature

Making nature observations is fun and can benefit science! By observing nature we learn to better understand our ecosystems and recognize when something changes. Use these three prompts the next time something catches your eye outside:

I notice...

As you describe what you see, your brain will automatically process the observation more deeply. Notice as many things as you can.

Example: I notice tiny hairs covering the underside of this leaf.

I wonder...

What are you curious about? The point is not to answer all the questions now, but just to get them out there.

Example: I wonder what purpose these hair structures serve.

It reminds me of...

Try to come up with as many connections as you can. Go into your own network of memories and see how this new set of observations fit in.

Example: The texture reminds me of soft fabric, like velvet.

Community Science

Community science is a way for all of us to record our nature observations and help scientists keep an eye on biodiversity and climate change. Share your observations on *iNaturalist*, *Nature's Notebook*, or *ISeeChange* to contribute meaningful data!

