Nature Exploration

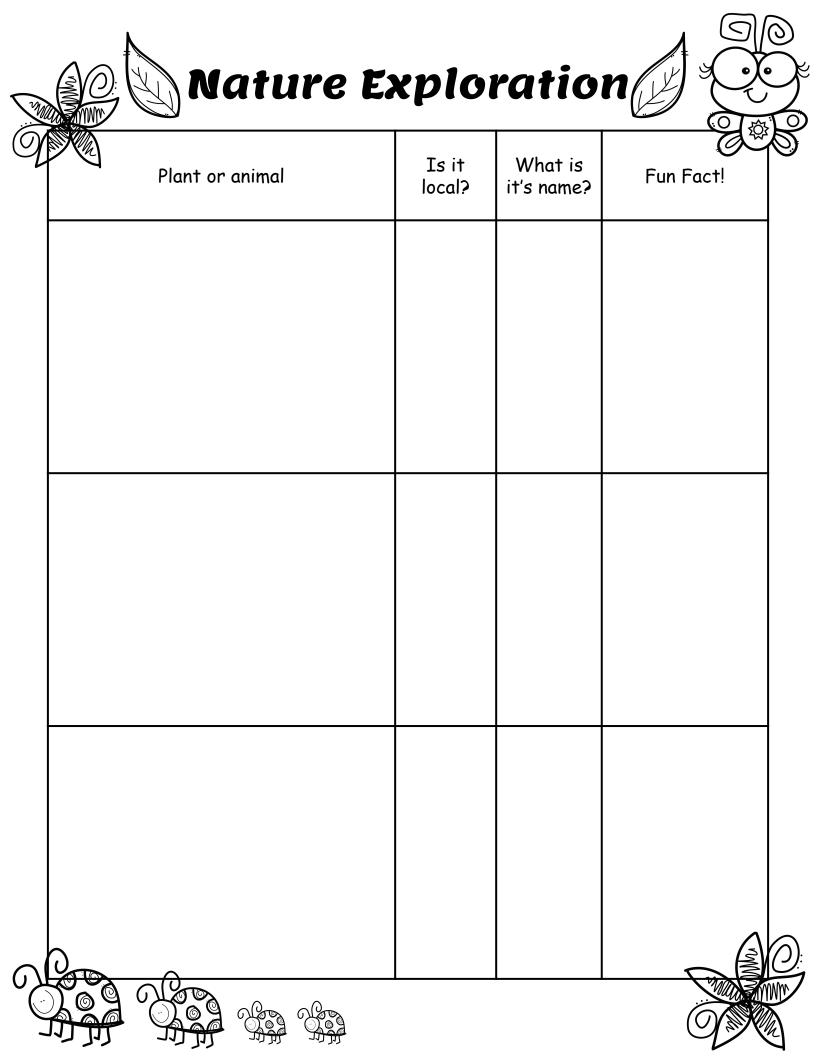
We are incredibly lucky to live in such a wonderful place with magnificent wildlife all around us. Part of the BC Curriculum for both kindergarten and grade one is the observation and naming of local plant and animals. I have designed an activity to encourage students to get outside, be active, and explore their local environment. This activity can be completed in one's own backyard, while walking through the neighbourhood, or during a forest or beach walk. Please remember to safe safe and keep a healthy distance if choosing to go for a walk in a public place.

While outside take pictures of, or draw, interesting plants and animals that you see. When you get back inside ask for some help in researching what you saw. Try and figure out if the plant or animals that you saw are native to the area (vs introduced). Try and find the name of the plant or animal. To extend your learning you could even learn some fun facts about the plant or animal.

A template is provided on the next page, however, this activity can easily be done using paper from home. Alternatively, you can make this a paperless activity by answering the questions orally.

EG:

Plant or animal	Is it local?	What is it's name?	Fun Fact!
	No, it is an invasive species	Cytisus Scoparius AKA Scotch Broom	Scotch broom grows to 1-3 metres in height
	Yes	Mallard Duck	Mallards are "dabbling ducks," a cute term that means they feed by floating on the water and tipping themselves forward, butts in the air, to graze on underwater plants or grab insects.





FERN	PINECONE	FLOWERS	BERRIES	JAGGED LEAF
SPIDERWEB	TREE WITH MOSS	MUSHROOM	EARTH WORM	ACORN
SMOOTH STONE	FEATHER	TREASURE	LITTER	ANIMAL TRACKS
FLYING INSECT	FALLEN BRANCH	SOLID LEAF	TREE STUMP	BIRD'S NEST
PUDDLE	SNATL SHELL	SQUIRREL	WEED	SUNSHINE