

Connecting 2 Nature through Photography Project 2: Search & See

Southwestern PA STEMfest Fall 2021



The goal of this project is to practice our ability **to see** components of our ecological community in order to better understand our local environment. People are often more familiar with exotic animals such as polar bears, penguins, and parrots but less familiar with the equally amazing organisms that live in our own backyard or city park. Simply placing a camera in our hands helps us slow down, look around and literally focus on our surroundings. Taking thoughtful photographs also helps us examine situations from multiple perspectives and ask questions about our observations.

Try to take pictures for as many categories as you can that are listed below. While taking pictures, please remember to tread lightly on the land and do not damage the wildlife in the process.

If you have any images that you would like to share, please e-mail them to Connect2NaturePa@gmail.com. Please include the category, first name and age of the photographer. We will post some of these images on social media.

A lepidopteran (Bonus: find one who's ancestors and descendants overwinter in Mexico)	The edge of two ecosystems, e.g., forest meets field	Evidence that an animal was there before	A pollinator	Something with diagonal lines
Life in a harsh environment (Bonus: flowering plant living between cement)	A meandering stream	A natural object that is red	Fungus on a tree	A caterpillar (Bonus: the more bizarre the better)
A nocturnal animal	The veins of a leaf	A source of water for wildlife	Humans interacting with nature	A millipede
A pill bug	The underside of a mushroom from the ground looking up	A picture that tells a story	An amphibian	A bird's nest
A spider in its web	Pictures of any subject taken from five different angles	A close up of green moss	An organism older than 80	An organism that removes carbon dioxide from the environment
A close up photograph of something with rough texture	The view from the forest floor	Something with a spiral pattern	A plastic bag stuck in a tree	Picture of a yellow flower with a purple flower in the background
An exotic insect	The habitat underneath a log	An adult organism that was born in a different habitat.	Frame an image with something else. (Bonus: A picture of an organism seen through a hole in a tree)	A parasite
Something in the foreground (front of image) related to the background	A reptile	A bird that remains here in the winter.	An image with a repeating pattern e.g., circles within circles	A native species