Nature Sound Map

Season: Year-Round

Duration: 5 - 15 minutes

Grade(s): All Ages



A great way to get to know your local woodlands is to venture out, find a sit-spot, and listen to your surroundings.
Create a Sound Map to help you remember what you heard!

Tools and Materials:

- Blank Paper and Clipboard or Nature Journal
- Writing/Colouring Tools (e.g. pencil, pen, crayons, watercolours, etc.)
- Compass (optional)
- Sit-Upon (optional)
- Field Guides (optional)

Ready? Let's go...

- 1. Find a quiet area in nature. A local park, forest, or even your backyard are wonderful places to start. Record the date and location at the top of your page.
- 2. Draw a large circle on your paper. In the centre of the circle, draw a picture of yourself or mark your location with an 'X'.
- 3. If possible, draw a compass rose to indicate direction.
- 4. Sit quietly for 10-15 minutes and listen. When you hear a sound, locate the approximate direction and record the sound on your paper (i.e. draw a picture, write a word or description of the sound, etc.).
- 5. That's all there is to it! Visit the same location throughout the seasons and at different times of the day. You might be surprised by how many things change.

Reflection: Here are some questions to guide your thoughts...

- How many different sounds did you hear?
- Did the number or types of sounds change with the season or time of day? If so, why?
- Were there any sounds that you didn't expect to hear?

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Here's a Sample:

Isabel Morris Park, March 12, 2024 Lakefield @ 10:00 a.m.

