

WILD FAMILIES

Loving, learning about and looking after nature in Victoria

WILD FUN: NATURE AT HOME

Activities for connecting with nature at home (inside and in the yard)



Adventures

1. **Adventure book** - Go through photos from past walks of camping trips and use them to create a book together about the trip and the things that happened. You could do this online or with printed photos.
2. **The places we'll go** - Research a Victorian national park you've never been to. Create a list of what you could do and what you might see when you go there.
3. **Home camping** - Set-up your tent in the backyard, build a fort inside and camp out for the night. Make a list of 5 things you would usually do on a camping trip and try to come up with an alternative way to do them on your home camping trip. E.g. we usually play games with our torches could involve turning out the lights and playing games by torchlight.



Make a mini forest

Art projects

4. **Animal home** - Choose a native animal and build a home you think it would like to live in. You could make your house inside or outside. Think about what your animal would need for the home to be safe. If it's big enough you could use it as a cubby.
5. **Mini forest** - Using leaf litter collected from your yard or anything you like, e.g. blocks, to build a mini forest. Think about what you would like in your forest e.g. tall trees and small trees, animal homes, wildlife, flowers, fungi.
6. **Stick and leaf critters** - Collect some sticks and leaves and use them to create funny critter pictures or a special native animal.
7. **Leaf art** - Use leaves from your garden to create leaf rubbings with crayon or draw a detailed picture of a special leaf. Take time to notice the details.



Looking for nature

8. **Watch birds** - Watch them closely. How many different types of birds can you spot? What are they doing? What sounds are they making? When are they visiting (time of day or season)?
9. **Nature through the window** - Keep a note pad by the window to record signs of the nature passing by e.g. birds, bugs, clouds, stars, colours changing as the sun sets, a special tree.



Watching for birds.

10. **Sky watch** - Lay back and watch the clouds or stars. Look out for animal shapes.
11. **What's under here?** - Carefully turn over rocks or logs in your garden. Who is hiding under there? Remember to always keep your hands where you can see them.



Playing

12. **Dig in the mud** - Create a spot for digging and playing in the mud in the yard.
13. **Wildlife documentary** - Make your own 'wildlife documentary' with members of your family being the narrators, scientists and animals. You could research facts to include, or focus entirely on pretending.



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