



# Fur, Feathers, and Ferns



**For more slides and support materials - Use this Google Classroom Code: y5crpdl**  
**Still need Bobcat?? Start with this Google Classroom: 6odhkcu**

## **Complete requirement #1 and at least 3 others**

1. While hiking or walking for one mile, identify six signs that any mammals, birds, insects, reptiles, or plants are living near the place where you choose to hike or walk.
2. Visit one of the following: zoo, wildlife refuge, nature center, aviary, game preserve, local conservation area, wildlife rescue group, or fish hatchery. Describe what you learned during your visit.
3. Name one animal that has become extinct in the last 100 years and one animal that is currently endangered. Explain what caused their declines.
4. Observe wildlife from a distance. Describe what you saw.
5. Use a magnifying glass to examine plants more closely. Describe what you saw through the magnifying glass that you could not see without it.
6. Learn about composting and how vegetable waste can be turned into fertilizer for plants.
7. Plant a vegetable or herb garden.

## **Resources and Ideas:**

1. You can find trails very close by checking with you local Parks and Rec Office or Website, or you can travel a bit to see a new area:  
<https://www.visitmaryland.org/list/places-go-hiking-maryland>  
<https://blog.virginia.org/2016/10/10-rewarding-easy-hiking-destinations-northern-virginia/>  
<https://www.washingtonian.com/2016/04/14/great-hikes-near-dc-maryland-virginia/>
2. You can tour the San Diego Zoo from home: <https://zoo.sandiegozoo.org/live-cams>  
or  
Check out the National Aviary CyBIRD Virtual Education Page here:  
<https://www.aviary.org/programs-encounters/cybird-learning/>
3. The International Union for Conservation of Nature maintains a Red List of Threatened Species here: <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>  
Popular Mechanics found this list of 20 animals that have gone extinct in the past 150 Years:  
<https://www.popularmechanics.com/science/animals/g201/recently-extinct-animals-list-470209/>





4. Binoculars or a camera with telephoto lens helps us keep our distance. Staying on the trail and giving the animals **PLENTY** of space is important too. This thumb trick can help you determine if you are far enough away from wildlife:  
<https://lnt.org/using-the-thumb-trick-keep-a-safe-distance-from-wildlife/>
5. Any small magnifying glass will do, or even a pair of non-prescription reading glasses. Look for a fresh plant leaf and compare it to one that has fallen off the plant. Just be careful to not disturb the living plants!!
6. The EPA has composting information here:  
<https://www.epa.gov/recycle/composting-home> - There are even instructions on how to get started making your own compost!
7. Did you know you can start seeds in a cardboard egg carton? This article talks about how:  
<https://www.gardeningknowhow.com/garden-how-to/propagation/seeds/egg-carton-seed-tray.htm>  
If you want to plant even more:  
<https://boyslife.org/hobbies-projects/funstuff/7222/plant-a-compact-vegetable-garden/>

