

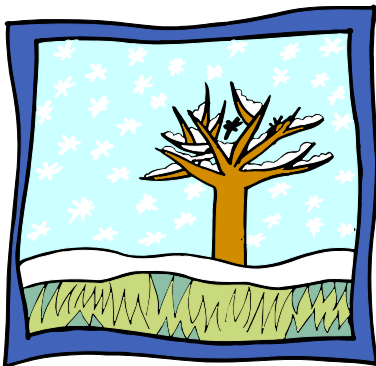
Winter Wednesday

- #1 World of Winter-Winter Colors (Discover Nature in Winter Chapter 1)
- #2 Snow (Discover Nature in Winter Chapter 2)
- #3 Winter Sky-Constellations (Discover Nature in Winter Chapter 3)
- #4 Trees-Silhouettes (Discover Nature in Winter Chapter 4)
- #5 Trees-Cones (Discover Nature in Winter Chapter 5)
- #6 Winter Weeds (Discover Nature in Winter Chapter 6)
- #7 Winter Insects (Discover Nature in Winter Chapter 7)
- #8 Birds (Discover Nature in Winter Chapter 8)
- #9 Mammals (Discover Nature in Winter Chapter 9)

These notebook pages go along with the Winter Wednesday Challenges on the Handbook of Nature Study blog. The nine challenges were written to go along with the book, *Discover Nature in Winter* and to give some ideas for recording your winter nature activities. The book is helpful but not totally necessary to complete the Winter Wednesday series of challenges.

In addition to notebook pages, there are suggested additional or supplemental ideas for more creative nature journal pages. Please pick and choose which activities and journal projects fit your family best and do not feel pressured to complete every aspect of every challenge.

Remember the best nature study is the one that captures your child's interest while outdoors. These challenges and journal activities are meant to help you get started with some simple ideas but by all means customize your study to fit your family and local area.



You also have access to several of my winter themed web pages to glean additional ideas from for each Winter Wednesday Challenge.

[Winter Nature Walks](#)

[Winter Series of Outdoor Hour Challenges](#)

[Winter Wednesday](#)

Make sure to check the links out as you work your way through this set of nature study challenges and complete your notebook pages.

Winter Wednesday

Week 4 Trees Part 1 Deciduous Trees

The tree was cold,
The tree was bare,
She shivered and shook in the frosty air.

-Eleanor Smith



Tree silhouettes

Take some time to observe winter trees and their shapes. The shape of the tree can help you identify it but it is also very beautiful. Find a place where you can see a tree from a distance and observe its trunk and branch patterns. Bring your sketch pad and sketch the tree for your nature journal. You might like to use this pdf to learn how to better sketch your winter tree : [Claire Walker Leslie's Guide to Sketching Trees \(pages 8 and 9\)](#)

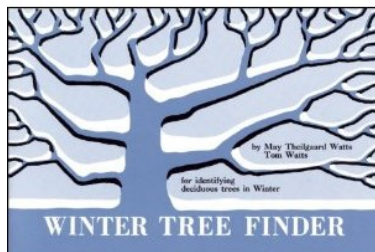
Additional Tree Study Ideas and Nature Journal Ideas

1. Pick a tree in your yard or on your street and view its branch patterns and silhouette. Draw the silhouette in your nature journal or on the accompanying notebook page. This activity can be done from a window if your weather is too cold or snowy. You may wish to include the lines of poetry from the top of this page in your nature journal.
2. Collect some seeds from trees that may still be left over from last season. Look for sweet gum, locust, yellow poplar, ash, mimosa, or sycamore.
3. Collect twigs from different trees and compare them.

Wonderful Art Project to Follow-Up Your Tree Silhouette Observations

- I like this idea that uses watercolors and masking tape:
[Stunning Winter Tree Silhouettes.](#)

Make sure to have your child do some tree silhouette observations before you tackle these art projects and they will be more meaningful.



If you are looking for a wonderful winter tree identification resource, you might wish to click the *Winter Tree Finder* image to go to Amazon.com for more details. We have just started using this book in our family and have found it very easy to use. It is a great addition to your winter backpack because it is small and very light.

Snow Observations

Filtering Snow—Record What You See in the Filter



Melting Snow—Draw Your Cups Before and After



Sample

Colored Paper—Record Your Colors and the Time

Color	Time to Melt

