

Handbook of Nature Study Newsletter Index

The 76 issues of the Handbook of Nature Study are a wealth of ideas and nature study encouragement. The newsletter has lots of printable ideas that you can use over and over in your family. Use the charts in the index to find some inspiration on specific topics as you encounter them in your family outdoor time.

Additional Information—Study Grids

You will see many “grid study” references in the index. Here is how to use them: Print the grid and keep it in a prominent place as a reminder of ways you can study a topic over a period of time. You can also adhere the grid in your nature journal and cross items off as you complete them. Additionally, you can cut the grid up and then add them to your nature journal. Here are some links to entries showing various ways we use the grid study printables: [Oak Trees](#) and [Mammal Grid Study](#) and [Weather Grid Study](#).

Additional Information— Nature Journal Toppers

There are many references to nature journal toppers in the index. What is a topper? These are printables that include for simple nature study. Print, cut, and then adhere the prompt into your nature journal at the top of a page. Then complete the suggestion in your own way. Sometimes the page will include a suggestion for a sketch, a photo, a list, or an observation. Here is a link for more information: [Toppers](#). You can also see an example in this entry: [Cattails](#).

Additional Information— Preschool Nature Study Ideas

In the August 2014 to July 2015 newsletters, you will find a preschool nature study plan Each month features a bird, a tree, a flower, and a mammal for you to learn about with printables, links, activity suggestions, nature table ideas, and images.

May 2011		Nature journal idea. Know Your Own Backyard notebook page.
June 2011	Birds	Nature journal idea. Know Your Own Backyard Bird study grid and notebook page.
July 2011	Sunflowers	Nature journal idea. Sunflower notebook page. Sunflower chalk pastel tutorial.
August 2011	Pond/Marsh	Nature journal idea. Summer Pond Study notebook page. Pond study grid. Marsh chalk pastel tutorial. Duck coloring page.
September 2011	Early Autumn—Weeds, seeds, and other delights	Nature journal idea. Know Your Own Backyard -Weed notebook page. Fall Weed study grid.
October 2011	Colors of Autumn and Leaves	Nature journal idea. Know Your Own Backyard -Leaves notebook page. Fall Leaf study grid.
November 2011	Changing Autumn World and Seasonal Tree	Nature journal idea (wax paper leaves). Know Your Own Backyard-November notebook page. November World study grid. Seasonal Tree Study—Autumn notebook page.
December 2011	Getting Ready for Winter	Nature journal idea (when, where, what). Know Your Own Backyard-December notebook page. December World study grid.

January 2012	Citizen Science—Getting Started! Plus January nature study ideas.	Articles encouraging citizen science in families. January World study grid. Nature journal idea (postcard style).
February 2012	Bird Love! Plus February nature study ideas.	Birdfeeder treats. Bird book reviews. Sketching birds. February Grid Fun grid study. Know Your Own Backyard-February notebook page.
March 2012	Early Spring Edition (Children's Literature)	Suggestions and reviews of children's nature related books. Early Spring study grid. Know Your Own Backyard—Early Spring notebook page.
April 2012	Building a Backyard Habitat Plus April nature study ideas.	Articles on creating a backyard habitat for wildlife. April Grid Fun study grid. Sparrow coloring page.
May 2012	Noticing Nature in the Everyday! Plus May nature study ideas.	Everyday learning right in your own yard or neighborhood. Nature journal idea (fill in the box). May Grid Fun study grid. Extraordinary in the Ordinary notebook page.
June 2012	Ocean Beach	Beach and tidepool nature study ideas. Beach Grid Fun study grid. My Seashore Study notebook page.
July 2012	Hot Weather	Suggestions for nature study when the weather is hot. Beat the Heat study grid. Know Your Own Backyard-When it is Hot notebook page.
August 2012	August Garden Plus owl pellet study.	Using the newsletter to encourage nature study. How to dissect an owl pellet. August Garden study grid. Know Your Own Backyard-August Garden notebook page.
September 2012	Insects and Careful Study	Using a magnifying lens. Lesson plans for insect and spider study. Ant study. Insect study grid.
October 2012	Trees Year Round	My Favorite Tree review and plan. Tree notebook page. Seasonal tree ideas. Nature journal idea (negative space). My Tree List notebook page. Tree study grid.
November 2012	Mammals	Mammal study learning styles article. Mammal study grid. Squirrel coloring pages.
December 2012	Weather and Climate	Nature study and high schoolers. Weather related articles. Weather study grid. Weather nature table ideas. My Weather notebook page.

January 2013	Rocks and Minerals	Rock related nature study ideas. Rock collection ideas. Rock study grid. Rock nature journal idea.
February 2013	Birds and Birdfeeders	Encouraging articles on birding for families. Bird study grids. My Birdfeeder Journal notebook page.
March 2013	Mushrooms, Lichen, and Moss	Book reviews. Types of lichen. Nature Journal idea. Mushroom, Lichen, and Moss study grid. Mushroom coloring pages.
April 2013	Reptiles and Amphibians	Encouraging articles about reptiles. Book review. Reptiles and Amphibians study grid.
May 2013	Garden Flowers and Crops	Garden flower study ideas. Garden Flowers study grid. Crop Plants study grid. Flower notebook page.
June 2013	Wildflowers and Weeds	Wildflower learning styles article. Wildflower Study notebook page. Planning an herb garden. Dandelion and aster study ideas. Wildflower and Weed study grid.
July 2013	Fish and Pond	Fish related articles to encourage your family. Year long study for a pond. Fish grid study. Fish Study-Trout notebook page.
August 2013	Night Sky	Night sky study ideas. Resources and book review. Night Sky grid study.
September 2013	Nature Study Tips Plus fall nature study ideas.	Encouragement from many contributors on how to create meaningful nature study. Fall Fun grid study. Fall Time Field Trip notebook page.
October 2013	Nature Walk Ideas Plus pumpkin study and leaves.	Nature walk ideas from contributors and a printable. Colors and Textures study grid. Pumpkin Farm notebook page. Know Your Own Backyard-Leaves notebook page.
November 2013	Nature Literature Plus weather.	My Nature Book Report notebook page. Lots of ideas for starting your own nature library. Weather Observation study grid. Woodpecker coloring page.
December 2013	National Parks Plus using your senses.	Passport to National Parks. Various national park visit ideas from contributors. Using Your Senses study grid.

January 2014	Nature Table	Articles showing how to create a nature table, nature display, or nature collection. Winter Fun study grid, ideas for creating specific nature tables.
February 2014	Citizen Science Plus February nature study ideas and bird study ideas.	Articles about specific citizen science projects for your family. February Fun study grid, Bird study grid, My Birdfeeder Journal notebook page.
March 2014	Nature Journal	Articles encouraging nature journaling from various contributors. Printable Nature Journal Toppers. Lion or Lamb notebook page.
April 2014	Backyard Observations and Habitats	Creating a backyard habitat and making observations in your own yard. Making a bug hotel. Printable Nature Journal Toppers.
May 2014	Gardens	Articles on gardening with children. Ants chalk pastel tutorial. Printable Nature Journal Toppers. . Seasonal Garden Notes notebook page. Garden Flower notebook page. Garden Flowers study grid.
June 2014	Nature Photography Plus summer nature study.	Photography tips! Summer Grid Fun printable. Printable Nature Journal Toppers.
July 2014	Year Long Nature Study Plus July nature study ideas.	Specific ideas for conducting a year long nature study. July Summer Fun printable grid. Printable Nature Journal Toppers.
August 2014	Preschool Nature Study	Nature study ideas for preschoolers. Printable Nature Journal Toppers.
September 2014	Fall Flowers	Fall flower study ideas. How to dissect a flower.
October 2014	Fall Trees	Autumn tree drive ideas. Fall craft ideas. Fall leaf nature journal idea. Printable Nature Journal Toppers. Deer coloring page.
November 2014	Falls Seeds Plus autumn nature study.	Seed study ideas. Seeds Magnifying Lens Activity notebook page. Printable Nature Journal Toppers. Oaks and Pines notebook page. Autumn Weed Photo Project notebook page. Raccoon coloring page.
December 2014	Transition to Winter	Various early winter nature study ideas. Printable Nature Journal Toppers. Skunk coloring page.

January 2015	Nature Book Basket Ideas	Articles on building a nature library. Printable Nature Journal Toppers. Goose coloring page.
February 2015	Nature Study in Winter	Winter nature study ideas. Printable Nature Journal Toppers. Nature From My Window notebook page. Cardinal coloring page.
March 2015	Book of Firsts	Creating a calendar of firsts for nature observations. Printable nature calendar. Poppy coloring page. Printable Nature Journal Toppers.
April 2015	Nature Journal Fun	Encouragement for your nature journal. Drawing With Children lessons for nature study. Printable Nature Journal Toppers. Blackbird coloring page.
May 2015	Nature Study—Travel	Preparing for nature study when you travel. Printable Nature Journal Toppers. Nature Study Travel notebook page.
June 2015	Herbs	Nature study ideas for herb growing and storing. Printable Nature Journal Toppers. Herb Study notebook page. Herb coloring page. Salvia coloring page.
July 2015	Twilight (nature study)	Lots of ideas for using the Outdoor Hour Challenge during the twilight hours. Printable Nature Journal Toppers. Animals at Night notebook page. Geranium notebook page.
August 2015	Nature Library Plus August nature study ideas.	Choosing and organizing your nature library. Printable Nature Journal Toppers. August garden study grid, and My Backyard in August notebook page.
September 2015	Trees—Leaves and Needles	Tree study ideas. Leaf Study nature journal page.
October 2015	Reptiles	Reptile study ideas. Reptile Study nature journal page.
November 2015	Mammals	Mammal study ideas, including a big grid study sheet and a Mammal Study nature journal page.
December 2015	Weather	Weather study ideas, including a big grid study sheet, a weather chart, and the My Seasonal Weather notebook page.

January 2016	Birds	Bird nature study ideas and links. Starling Bird Study notebook page. Bird Life List printable.
February 2016	Rocks and Creeks	Rock nature journal and study ideas. Creek nature study in four seasons. Creek Study notebook page.
March 2016	Lichen and Moss	Lichen and moss nature study ideas and links. Lichen vocabulary. Lichen Study notebook page.
April 2016	Garden Seeds	Garden nature study ideas. Nature journal ideas. Garden seeds project. Garden Seed Study notebook page.
May 2016	Wildflowers	Wildflower nature study ideas and links. Wildflower and Weed grid study. Wildflower project. Wildflower Study notebook page.
June 2016	Insects-Wings	Insect nature study and nature journal ideas. Insect wings article. Insect Wing Study notebook page.
July 2016	Night Sky—Big Dipper	Sky and stars nature journal and nature study ideas. Astronomy multiple learning styles ideas. Big Dipper Study notebook page.
August 2016	Invertebrates—Snails	Invertebrate nature journal and nature study ideas. Snail vocabulary and nature study suggestions. Snail Study notebook page.
September 2016	Insect Study—Insect Homes	Insect home study ideas. Gall dweller nature study. Insect study grid. Insect coloring page.
October 2016	Weather—Keeping Records	Weather nature study and nature journal ideas. Citizen science ideas. Outdoor Hour Challenge #10.
November 2016	Fungi and the Forest	Nature study ideas for fungi study. Lots of forest nature study ideas. Mushroom Cap notebook page. Maple Tree Study notebook page.
December 2016	Nature Walks	Nature walk ideas. Silent Autumn Nature Walk notebook page.

January 2017	Backyard Nature	Know your own backyard! Creating a sensory experience. Using Your Senses grid study.
February 2017	Focus on Trees and Tree Bark	Tree nature study ideas. Tree bark up close nature study.
March 2017	Rocks in Your Park	Rock nature study and nature journal ideas. No Technology Walk idea. Rock Games.
April 2017	Wildflowers	Wildflower nature study ideas. Trillium coloring page.
May 2017	Garden Crops	Gardening with kids ideas. Nature table ideas. Garden journal ideas. 3 Seed Container Project.
June 2017	Beach and Fish	Fish nature study and nature journal ideas. Ocean creatures article. Fish grid study.
July 2017	Birds– Tails and Songs	Bird study suggestions. Learning birds by song. Nature journal printable ideas. Bird Life List notebook page.
August 2017	Mammals at the Zoo	Visiting the zoo ideas and printables. Mammal Nature journal idea printable.