Outdoor Hour Challenge
Autumn Bonus Set
Notebook Pages and Grids

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Table of contents

Autumn 2009 Notebook Pages—See This Link for the Challenges: Autumn 2009

Autumn Series—Bird
Cattail Seasonal Nature Study
Autumn Series—Field Guide Notes
Autumn Study Goldenrod
Mushroom Notebook Page
Autumn Study Oaks and Acorns
Autumn Series Pumpkins
Seasonal Tree Study—Autumn
Autumn Series Squirrels #1
Autumn Series Squirrels #2

Miscellaneous

Signs of Autumn
Fall Color Walk
Autumn Weather Observations

Newsletter

Know Your Own Backyard—Weeds
Study Grid—Weeds
Know Your Own Backyard—Leaves
Study Grid—Fall Leaves
Know Your Own Backyard November World
Study Grid—November World
Autumn Series - Birds

Sketch your bird.

Date  |  Bird Name:  |  Location:

Facts about my bird:

______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
Draw your cattail flower spike.

Notes or describe changes since last season.

Date:

Season:

Weather:

Location:

Draw your cattail in its natural setting. Is there water? Yes □ No □

Broad-leaved or Narrow-leaved? (circle one)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Observation</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Autumn Series: Field Notebook List**


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Autumn Study: Goldenrod

I am alone with nature,
With the soft September day;
The lifting hills above me,
With goldenrod are gay.
Across the fields of ether
Flit butterflies at play
And cones of garnet sumac
Glow down the country way.

The autumn dandelion
Beside the roadway burns;
Above the lichenèd boulders
Quiver the plumèd ferns.
The cream-white silk of the milkweed
Floats from its sea-green pod;
From out the mossy rock-seams
Flashes the goldenrod.
-Mary Clemmer Ames

Name: ____________________________  Date: ________________  Location: ________________  Weather: ________________
Autumn Study: Oaks and Acorns

Color of the bark: __________________________
Color of the leaf: __________________________
Edge of leaf smooth or pointed: __________________________
Branches straight or crooked? __________
Did you find an acorn? __________

Sketch an acorn from your oak.

Sketch your oak or one of its leaves.

Name:  Date:  Location:  Weather:
Describe your pumpkin using some of the questions on pages 616-617 in the *Handbook of Nature Study*.

_______________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________

Did you eat your pumpkin? ______________________
Describe the taste of the pumpkin: ______________________
Did you enjoy it? ______________________

Where did you get your pumpkin? Did you grow it?
___________________________________________
___________________________________________

Draw your pumpkin.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tree Name:</th>
<th>Weather:</th>
<th>Location:</th>
<th>Date:</th>
<th>Color of leaves:</th>
<th>Describe the bark:</th>
<th>Date of first leaf falling:</th>
<th>Are there fruits or seeds?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Sketch your tree, its leaves, cones, or fruits.
# Autumn Series—Squirrels

**Sketch your squirrel.**

**Research and draw your squirrel’s tracks.**

**What does your squirrel eat?**

**Date:**

**Location:**

**Squirrel Name:**

**Facts about your squirrel (color, size, habitat, defenses, behavior, tail shape)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kingdom:</th>
<th>Phylum:</th>
<th>Class:</th>
<th>Order:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Animal</td>
<td>Chordata</td>
<td>Mammal</td>
<td>Rodent</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sketch your squirrel.
Sketch four signs of autumn in your neighborhood.

Write your autumn observations from your nature study time:

__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

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As you go for a nature walk, look for all the different fall colors...reds, oranges, yellows, greens, browns and even purples. As you find the colors write them on the lines below. Then color the leaves with colored pencils, markers or crayons.
## Typical Autumn Weather in My Local Area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Temperature</th>
<th>Wind</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Precipitation</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Thunderstorms, tornado, lightning, floods, etc.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sketch your autumn scene.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location:</th>
<th>Temperature</th>
<th>Cloud Type:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Know Your Own Backyard - Weeds

Sketch your weed.

Date: ____________________________

Location: ____________________________

Subject: ____________________________

Record your weed observations.

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

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## Study Grid and List—Printables

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Find a weed to press for your nature journal.</td>
<td>Pull up a weed and look at its roots with a magnifying glass. Try the Sock Seed project. Put an old sock over your shoe and walk out in your yard. Remove the sock and look for weed seeds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Find an insect on a weed.</td>
<td>Outdoor Hour Challenge Fall Weed Study Find some autumn wildflowers to put in a vase on your nature table.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can you draw it in your nature journal?</td>
<td>Use your senses to observe a weed. List six words in your nature journal that describe your weed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Count the petals on an autumn wildflower.</td>
<td>Find three different kinds of weed seeds and draw them in your nature journal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use your senses to observe a weed.</td>
<td>Weeds Study Grid The newsletter grid study this month helps your family observe a few things about your local autumn weeds. You may wish to view the Weeds and Seeds Challenge for some additional guidance.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Outdoor Hour Challenge

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Know Your Own Backyard - Leaves

Sketch your leaf and label.

Date:    Location:    Subject:

Record your leaf and color observations.

_____________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________

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**Study Grid and List—Printables**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Keep a list of leaf names.</th>
<th>Press leaves for your nature journal.</th>
<th>Find three different shapes of leaves.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image" alt="Notebook" /></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Book" /></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Leaves" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Leaf Study Grid**

The newsletter grid study this month helps your family observe a few things about your fall leaves. Your leaf and color work should be to impress the thought that there is beauty in the richness of fall foliage.

1. Print the grid and cut it out to fit in your nature journal.
2. Spend time each week completing one or two of the suggested activities. Mark off the boxes you completed.
3. Use your nature journal and the Know Your Own Backyard—Leaves notebook page included in this newsletter to record all your observations and activities.

**My Leaf Colors List**

1. Color the leaves on the bookmark the colors of your autumn leaves. You can use the bookmark-style list on this page, cut it out, and insert it in your nature journal if you wish.

**Outdoor Hour Challenge**

- **Fall Leaf Study**
- Notice which trees change color first.
- Use your hand lens to look at leaves up close.
- Do you know your state tree and flower? See link on Page 4.
- Make a leaf bouquet for your fall table.

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Sketch something in your November World.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date:</th>
<th>Location:</th>
<th>Subject:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Write a few sentences describing your November world observations.

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
November World Grid
The newsletter grid study this month helps your family observe a few things about your November world. If possible, try to make comparisons from the summer season.

1. Print the grid and cut it out to fit in your nature journal.
2. Spend time each week completing one or two of the suggested activities. Mark off the boxes you completed.
3. Use your nature journal and the Know Your Own Backyard—November notebook page included in this newsletter to record all your observations and activities.

November List
Keep a list of things you observe during your November outdoor time. Look for seeds, different shaped leaves, cones, tracks, signs of mammals, puddles, ice, birds migrating, dead flowers or weeds, abandoned nests, or anything else that comes your way.