

WHERE THE WILD ONES LEARN

Winter Nature Study

HOME EDUCATION
A FAMILY COMPANION

THROUGH THE WILD LENS™

Follow what they notice

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24-PAGE NATURE STUDY

A companion for following an interest

Start with what’s already happening

Start with whatever has caught their attention. It might be a bird at the window, a leaf that stayed green, or the dark arriving before tea. Pick a page that helps you look together.

The Wild Lens™

Notice first. Interpret cautiously. Respond intentionally.

Say what you can see

“The edge of that puddle looks cloudy.” Pause to see what they make of it. A quick look can be the whole thing.

See what they’re working out

A child who points to a second puddle may be looking for a pattern. You could say, “Shall we look at that edge too?”

Let them choose what happens next

One child might talk or draw, another might take the photo. A child who makes the puddle into a map can take the idea there. You can come back to the science another day.

What caught their attention?

Start with what they’re already looking at, talking about or returning to. Try one small offer and see where it goes.

THE GRASS HAS WHITE TIPS

Look for an edge where the grass changes from white to green. Look closely at frost, p. 5.

THEY SPOTTED A RED CHEST AT THE WINDOW
Watch where the bird stops before it moves on. A robin at the window, p. 12.

THEY FOUND A PRINT IN MUD OR SNOW

Count the marks you can see from the path. Who left this track?, p. 13.

THEY WONDERED WHY IT WAS DARK BEFORE TEA
Look out at the same time on another day. When does it get dark?, p. 15.

THEY KEEP GOING BACK TO THE SAME SPOT
Take a picture from the place they like to stop. Go back to one thing, p. 22.

Before you go

Stay on firm ground and away from frozen water. Leave plants, berries, droppings, pellets and animal shelters where they are. Check weather, wash hands after outdoor activities and keep outdoor finds away from mouths.

Looking for something else?

Winter changes and frost, pp. 4–5 · Winter plants, pp. 6–11 · Wildlife and the clues it leaves, pp. 12–14 · Daylight and the night sky, pp. 15–16 · Investigate, make and revisit, pp. 17–22 · Sources and photo credits, pp. 23–24