

Parent Information

(Get To Know Your Neighbourhood Week 2)



This week your child will be learning to look for the creatures, places, and things that make up their neighbourhood.

Parent role:

Provide clear expectations: Let your child know where they can play independently and your expectations.

Read for non-readers: Children still learning to read will need your help with reading instructions, but should be able to complete the activities independently.

Child role:

Children have 3 challenges to inspire them. This week they are challenged to:

Explore: use 3 scavenger hunts to find birds, items, and places in their neighbourhood

Create: make a chipmunk tightrope or bee bath

Observe: watch one creature or family of creature and notice their behavior and habits.

We hope your child will have fun and that you will be encouraged as they step out and explore independently. If you have questions or feedback please contact us via email or facebook messenger. We would love to hear from you!

Tandy, Lotus, and Lorenoa

Who Lives in My Neighbourhood (Week 2)



This week look carefully to find who lives in your **Neighbourhood!**

Here are 3 scavenger hunts to help you get started.

Remember before you explore always **check with an adult**, tell them where you are going, and when you will be back.

We hope you have fun exploring!

Tandy, Lotus, & Lorena

Challenge 1: Explore

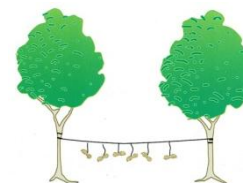
Can you find all the items on the 3 scavenger hunts in your neighbourhood?

Can you find and name a bird that isn't on that list?

Can you play with your loose parts?

Challenge 2: Create

Make a chipmunk tightrope



OR

Make bee or bird bath.



Supplies:

- String
- Shallow dish
- Bird identification guide
- Scavenger hunts

You need to find:

- Small stones or rocks
- Water
- Peanuts in their shell or small carrot sticks

Challenge 3: Observe

Sit in your special spot from last week and watch. Can you find a creature that you can watch?

Remember: bugs, birds, and squirrels all count.

What do you notice?

Neighbourhood Sightseeing List

RED FLOWERS:



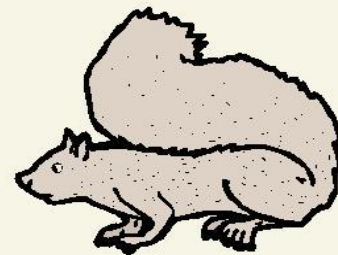
A HEART
SHAPED ROCK:



SOMEONE
TO SAY
HELLO TO:



5 GREY
SQUIRRELS:



A FIRE
HYDRANT:



ART
IN
YOUR
COMMUNITY:



THE
TALLEST
TREE ON
YOUR STREET:



A BIRD'S
NEST:



LOOSE PARTS SCAVENGER HUNT



Natural materials you can find and use in play

- **Pinecones**
- **Small stones**
- **Rocks**
- **Sticks**
- **Twigs**
- **Fallen branches**
- **A variety of leaves**
- **Found items**
(e.g. bricks, wood)
- **Fallen flower petals**
- **Fallen tree bark**
- **Soil or Dirt**
- **Pine needles**
- **Acorns**
- **Long grasses**
- **Tree stumps**
- **Seed pods**
- **Sand**
- **Shells**
- **Beach glass**
- **Herbs**
- **Puddles**

Consider adding from home:

**Human/animal figures,
string, bowls, spoons,
blocks, mortar & pestle,
magnifying glass**





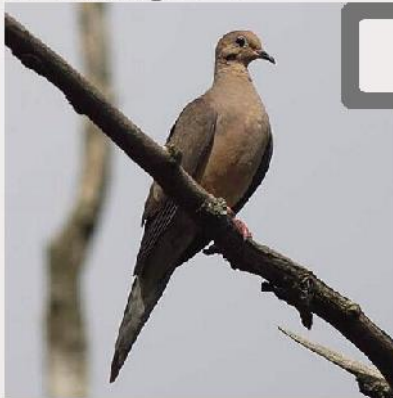
I SPY: LONDON'S BIRDS

Which birds can you spot?

Blue Jay



Mourning Dove



Common Grackle



American Robin



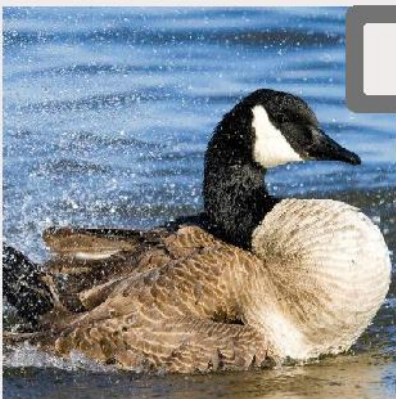
Black-Capped Chickadee



Red-Winged Blackbird



Canada Goose



Northern Cardinal (M)



Northern Cardinal (F)



All images obtained from birdscanda.org
Photo Identification Guide

*child*REACH

Photo Identification Guide

Middlesex, Ontario (4 Jul 2020)

Photos: Mark Peck and Christian Artuso



Canada Goose



Mallard
male



Mallard
female



Rock Pigeon



Mourning Dove



Killdeer



Spotted Sandpiper



Great Blue Heron



Turkey Vulture



Red-tailed Hawk



Belted Kingfisher
female



Downy Woodpecker
male



Downy Woodpecker
female



Hairy Woodpecker
male



Hairy Woodpecker
female



Northern Flicker
Yellow-shafted



Eastern Phoebe



Great Crested Flycatcher



Eastern Kingbird



Red-eyed Vireo



Blue Jay



American Crow



Black-capped Chickadee



Horned Lark
male



Horned Lark
female



Tree Swallow



Barn Swallow



White-breasted Nuthatch



House Wren



European Starling



Gray Catbird



Veery



American Robin



Cedar Waxwing



House Sparrow
male



House Sparrow
female



House Finch
male



House Finch
female



American Goldfinch
male



American Goldfinch
female



Chipping Sparrow



Savannah Sparrow



Song Sparrow



Eastern Meadowlark



Baltimore Oriole
male



Red-winged Blackbird
female



Red-winged Blackbird
male



Brown-headed Cowbird
male



Common Grackle



Common Yellowthroat
male



Yellow Warbler
male



Northern Cardinal
female



Northern Cardinal
male



Rose-breasted Grosbeak
female



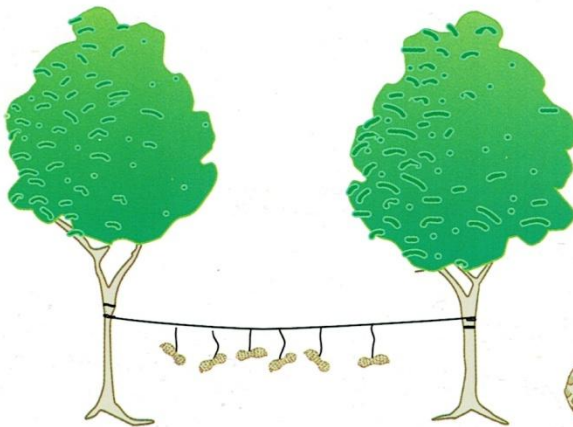
Rose-breasted Grosbeak
male

WATCH THE CHIPMUNKS WALK A TIGHTROPE

Chipmunks are curious little animals. They can learn simple tasks that will give you hours of fun, and them hours of food—or hours of figuring out how to get to the food, anyway.

WHAT YOU NEED

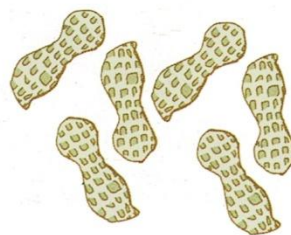
- 6 peanuts in their shells
- 6 pieces of string, each cut 8 inches long
- a clothesline, or a rope tied between two trees about 5 feet off the ground



WHAT TO DO

- 1 Tie one end of each string around the middle of a peanut.
- 2 Tie the other end of each string to the clothesline or rope. Tie the peanuts to the line so they are at least 1 foot apart.
- 3 Watch your tightrope from a distance that the chipmunks will be comfortable with.

After the chipmunks have found the peanuts by smell, they will have to become high-wire walkers to get them. They will climb the clothesline pole or tree, and make their way to the rope. Then they will carefully try to walk to the peanut string. They will probably try to untie the string from the peanut!



*** If you don't have peanuts, try using little sticks of carrot**

This idea and many other fun facts and activities can be found in "Fun with Nature Take-along guide" by Mel Boring, Diane L. Burns, and Leslie Dendy.

MAKE A BIRD AND BEE BATH

Birds, bees and other creatures use water to drink, bath, and cool down on a hot day. You can make your own bath, and then enjoy watching them visit.

WHAT YOU NEED

- A shallow, flat-bottomed bowl, basin or tub (no deeper than 4 inches)
- Some small stones or rocks
- Water from a hose or bucket



WHAT TO DO

1. Pick a spot on the ground where you want to put the bath. Put it near shade to keep the water cool.
2. Put about 2 inches of water in the bowl.
3. Add some small stone and rocks to create 'islands' for the bees to land on.
4. Change the water often to keep it clean.
5. Watch from a distance to see who visits your bath.

You can make smaller baths just for bees and set them in the garden. Make sure the water in these bee baths completely evaporates by the end of the day and refill it each morning.

