

STUDY QUESTIONS

TO “WRITE, SKETCH, EXPLORE”

Study and learn facts and ideas based on this Young Naturalists nonfiction story in *Minnesota Conservation Volunteer*, September–October 2021, www.mndnr.gov/mcvmagazine.

Minnesota Conservation Volunteer magazine is your guide to wild things. Every other month, six times a year, the magazine arrives in your school library. Each one has a story for Young Naturalists like you. **Are you curious about wild things?** Young Naturalists tells true stories that can answer all kinds of questions such as these—

Have you ever heard of a purple wartyback? How about a pink heelsplitter, pimple-back, or monkeyface? All are Minnesota freshwater mussels. Read Young Naturalists stories to learn which species (kinds) of critters live in Minnesota—frogs, salamanders, snakes, wild cats, wild dogs, weasels, mice, and rabbits.

Want to **peek inside the den of a red fox** and see how the kits grow up? Are you a rock hound searching for agates? Have you ever wondered what’s alive under snow? How animals see? Why is a bluebird blue? How birds fly?

Would you like to hear the true story of **giants of the ice age**? Young Naturalists also tells you about the underground universe. You can read the story of a tiny owl that went to a hospital with an injured wing. Find out about a boy who worked in a logging camp. Read the story of Ojibwe children today hunting and gathering like their ancestors did.

Learn how to get started **camping, snowshoeing, ice fishing, or canoeing**.

Find these stories and more online at www.mndnr.gov/young_naturalists.

Your knowledge of wild things helps you explore and enjoy the outdoors. Have fun!

“WRITE, SKETCH, EXPLORE” STUDY QUESTIONS

Study and learn facts and ideas based on this Young Naturalists nonfiction story in *Minnesota Conservation Volunteer*, September–October 2021, www.mndnr.gov/mcvmagazine.



1. WHAT FOUR REASONS DOES THE ARTICLE GIVE FOR KEEPING A NATURE JOURNAL? _____

2. TRUE OR FALSE: YOU SHOULD HAVE SPECIAL SUPPLIES TO KEEP A NATURE JOURNAL.

3. WHY MIGHT YOU CLOSE YOUR EYES BEFORE YOU WRITE IN YOUR NATURE JOURNAL? _____

4. NAME THREE KINDS OF THINGS MIGHT YOU INCLUDE IN YOUR NATURE JOURNAL? _____

5. WHAT DOES THE ARTICLE SAY YOU SHOULD YOU DO WHEN YOU GET HOME FROM YOUR NATURE JOURNAL ADVENTURE?

- a. Take a shower
- b. Check for ticks
- c. Have cookies and milk
- d. a and b
- e. none of the above

6. WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF NATURE JOURNALING?

7. TRUE OR FALSE: A PERSON KEEPING A NATURE JOURNAL SHOULD BE A GOOD ARTIST.

8. NAME THREE CHARACTERISTICS OF A SOUND YOU MIGHT RECORD ON YOUR SOUND MAP. _____

9. WHAT REASON DOES THE STORY GIVE FOR VISITING THE SAME PLACE MORE THAN ONCE?

- a. So you can compare observations over time.
- b. Because it is the only available place.
- c. Because it is safer to visit a familiar place.
- d. So you don't disturb too much nature.

10. MATCH THE TRAIL TO THE FAMOUS NATURE JOURNAL KEEPER:

Edith Holden	Lived in Great Britain
Aldo Leopold	Lived in Wisconsin
Charles Darwin	Lived in the early 1800s
	Lived in the early 1900s
	Traveled the world
	Was an artist
	Was a naturalist

CHALLENGE QUESTION: Why does the story recommend writing down the date, time of day, weather and description of the setting?

MINNESOTA COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENTS PRACTICE ITEMS

1. WHAT IS ONE THING THE STORY TELLS US NOT TO DO IN ORDER TO STAY SAFE WHILE NATURE JOURNALING? _____

2. HOW MIGHT YOU FIND AN ANSWER TO A QUESTION YOU HAVE WHILE NATURE JOURNALING?

- a. look it up
- b. ask an expert
- c. do an experiment
- d. all of the above

3. WHY IS IT FUN TO RECORD WHEN SEASONAL EVENTS HAPPEN? _____

4. HOW WILL KEEPING AN NATURE JOURNAL HELP YOU? _____

5. HOW OFTEN SHOULD YOU WRITE IN YOUR NATURE JOURNAL?

- a. every day
- b. every week
- c. when someone tells you to
- d. regularly

Vocabulary

acrostic – a type of poem made from the first letters of a word

customize – make specific to a purpose, person, or thing

haiku – a type of poem that typically has three lines with five, seven, and five syllables each

melodic – like a melody

mechanical – of or related to machines

rubbing – an image made by rubbing a writing utensil across paper over an object

texture – the way a surface looks or feels