

Exploring & Observing Nature

Making a Nature Journal

Observing and recording what you see in Nature is great in any season! It can be fun and useful to have a Nature Notebook to write and draw in as you head outside.

What You Need:

- Scissors
- Paper: You can use the backsides of already used paper, lined paper, construction paper, tracing paper, computer paper, paper cut from paper bags, etc.
- Hole puncher (or make your own holes)
- One piece of cardboard - same size as your paper
- Three 6 inch pieces of string, yarn, twine, shoe lace
- One 16 inch piece of string
- One clothes pin (optional)
- Pencil
- Masking tape
- Markers to decorate



A Simple Way to Make a Notebook!

Step 1: Assemble your papers. You can make a book with just a few pages and it can be any size. Use scissors to cut them to the same size. If you have a hole puncher, make 3 holes in your first paper (top, middle, bottom- about ½ inch from the edge.) Then use your first paper as a guide to punch holes in the same spots on your other papers.

Step 2: Pile up your papers, with the cardboard on the bottom.

Step 3: Take one of the short pieces of string, and pass it through the center holes. Tie a knot, but not too tight, so you will be able to easily open and close your book.

Step 4: Do the same for the top and bottom holes.

Step 5: Punch a hole in the bottom right corner of your cardboard.

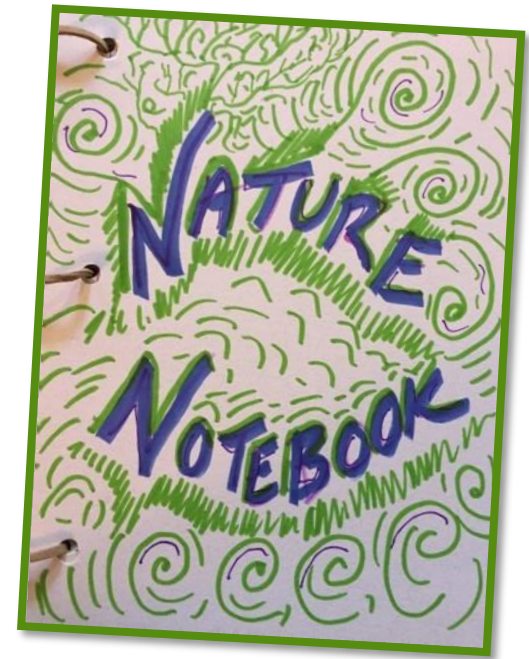
Step 6: Tie the long piece of string to the card board, then tie it around your pencil. Put a piece of masking tape around the pencil to keep the string from sliding off.

Add These Extras!

Decorate your nature notebook with designs on the cover.

Glue an envelope to the cardboard, to make a pocket for collecting small leaves.

Add a clothespin, to add more papers or notes.



Here's a Trick:

Here's a trick: use a clothes pin to hold the papers together, so they don't move! Punch the holes in your cardboard in the same spots too.



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