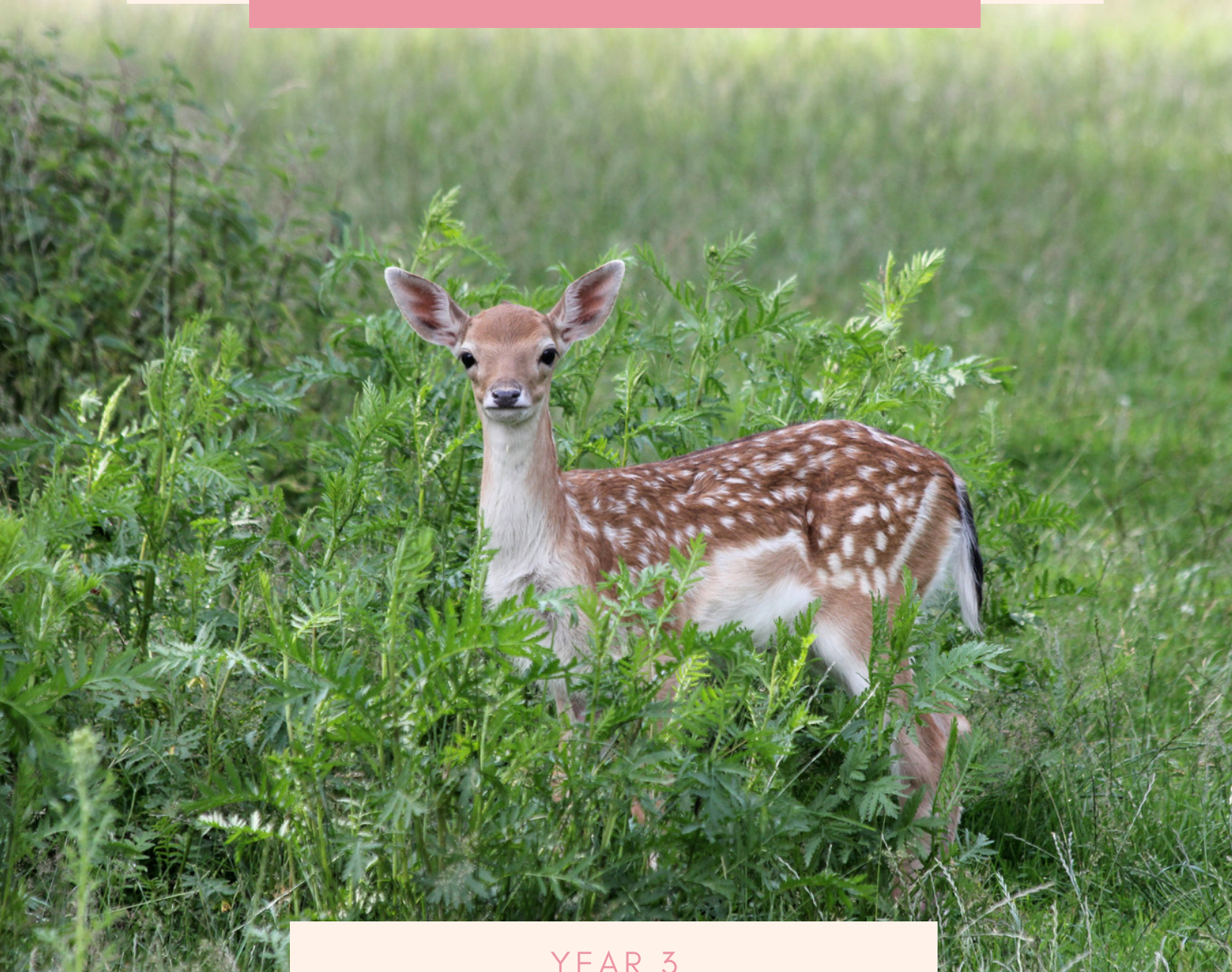


BLOSSOM & ROOT

NATURE STUDY // YEAR 3

Wonders of the Animal Kingdom

PARENT GUIDE



YEAR 3

Local Animals // Tracks and Scat // Migration and Seasonal Adaptations // Local Habitats



www.blossomandroot.com

Copyright 2019 Kristina Garner Blossom and Root,
All rights reserved. ISBN# pending.
To report errors contact kristina@blossomandroot.com
Design by Kristina Garner
Editing by Jason Garner

Blossom & Root

Nature Study
Year 3:

*Wonders of the
Animal Kingdom*

A Complete Nature Study Curriculum

Grade 3

**Blossom & Root Nature Study
Year 3: Wonders of the Animal Kingdom**

By Kristina Garner - www.blossomandroot.com
9462 Carlyle Park Pl.
Highlands Ranch, CO 80129

Find Us on the Web at <https://www.blossomandroot.com>

Attention: Guidelines to Using *Blossom & Root Nature Study, Year 3: Wonders of the Animal Kingdom*. This is your copy of our curriculum. Please do not forward, copy, or resell the contents contained in this curriculum, its guide, or its student notebook. Please send friends to our website at www.blossomandroot.com, where they can download their own free sample of our curriculum. You do not have permission to print and resell any portion of *Blossom & Root Nature Study, Year 3: Wonders of the Animal Kingdom*. You may not resell it at homeschool fairs / online markets and trading groups / etc. You are free to print copies for your own use, for your own children. We trust you to honor and respect these guidelines and restrictions. Thank you!

Project 2: My Bird Book

About the Project:

Throughout the year, your child will create a book chronicling the various birds around their home. Each page will include a photo or drawing of a local bird species that they spot around their home or while playing or hiking outside. You may also want to have your child include pictures of feathers they find. They will look their bird up in a local bird guide to identify it, then copy the name and any other interesting facts they'd like, next to the photographs or drawings.

Try to have your child add at least one new bird per month. Try to include some birds your child is not yet familiar with, if they already know most of the birds in your area by sight or by sound.

How to Make a Bird Book:

Fold at least 12 sheets of paper in half and staple to bind them down the center. Have your child create a cover for their book (My Bird Book, for example.)

Once a month (or more) take a nature walk to find a new bird, or observe birds that visit feeders outside your window. Have your child take a picture of the bird, or make a drawing of it. If your child takes a photo, print it out and have them glue it onto a page of their book.

Help them to identify the bird in a local guide and have them write their bird's name (common and scientific) next to the picture. They may also wish to note interesting facts, location of the bird they found, and date / time the bird was seen.

Projects

Project Timing:

Begin "Project 3: My Bird Book" either early in the school year, or during the week when you begin to study birds. Try to add at least one species (photo or drawing) to it each month (the more, the better!)

Supplies You Will Need:

- Paper
- A stapler
- A camera phone or digital camera
- Some means of printing photos (photo printer, one hour photo service, etc.)
- Glue or tape
- Markers, colored pencils, or crayons
- Pencils or pens
- A bird book or guide appropriate for your area

Bonus:

Look up your bird using one or more of the websites listed below. Many of these have recorded bird sounds to listen to, and they all have lots of information about the bird's habitat, migratory habits, diet, and more!

<https://www.audubon.org/bird-guide>

<https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/search>
(From the Cornell Lab of Ornithology)

<https://www.whatbird.com/>

Make an Insect Inn

Make an Insect Inn

Instructions:

1. Begin by stuffing the sticks into the plastic cylinder. The bundle should be tight enough to stay together in the cylinder, but not so tight that you can't push filler materials into it. The sticks should come out several inches on either side.
2. Once you have a good, tight bundle of sticks pushed through the plastic bottle, you can begin adding filler. Push leaves, hay, pinecones, straw, even flowers or grasses into the bundle, creating little hiding places and pockets.
3. Run a length of twine through the cylinder and then use it to hang the insect inn from a tree branch. You may also want to tuck your inn into a shady spot in your garden. Each location will attract different guests.
4. Check your inn every few days to see who has come to visit.

Nature Notebook:

Read to your child: *Which kinds of insects do you think will visit our insect inn? Where do you think the best place to hang it (or place it) would be? What if we put it on the ground, near water--would that change the kinds of visitors we might have? What if we put it out in a very sunny spot, or in a very shady spot?*

Once your child has recorded their day, either with a drawing or with a photograph that they glue or tape into their notebook, they may record their words about it below. Be sure they date their entry.

Nature Study Prompt

Where to Go:

This activity can be done indoors or outside, but you will need to first spend time outdoors gathering materials.

Supplies You Will Need:

- a large plastic bottle* with the top and bottom cut off, leaving a wide ring of plastic (You can use 2 liter for a large inn, but you'll want to cut it so that it's about four to six inches shorter than most of your sticks.)
- a good bundle of sticks gathered from around your yard (or a friend's yard, with permission)--it's best to use a variety
- natural material for "filler" gathered from your yard or a friend's yard with permission: straw, long grasses, hay, pinecones, bits of bark, dried leaves
- garden twine
- scissors

*If plastic bottles aren't something your family purchases, you can simply use twine to wrap up your bundle once you've assembled it. Remember to keep it tight enough that it doesn't fall apart, but loose enough that insects can squeeze into the little spaces between the filler and the sticks.