

## Objectives

- Explore the various ways that you are connected to nature
- Investigate the Zoo's native bush areas to uncover New Zealand's unique flora and fauna
- Contribute to the well being of our native wildlife by taking action.



*Roll up your sleeves- it's time to get dirty!  
Grab your bugnoculars and examine the  
superheroes of the natural world!*



**Think about a time when you felt close to nature.  
Where were you and what happened?**

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**Who's connected to who?  
Draw the connections.**



You are here!

Draw yourself!



## NATURE TRAIL SCAVENGER HUNT!

Draw in this box one of the insects you discover.



What is it? \_\_\_\_\_

Stop and listen!

How many native birds can you hear?

\_\_\_\_\_

If you keep your cat in at night you will help keep New Zealand birds singing!

Can you tell us why?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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Hold this sheet against the bark of a tree. Rub a pencil over this space below in long even strokes.  
**Do you know which tree this is?**



How does bark protect trees? How can you help look after trees?

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## Smell nature!

Choose two different natural objects, like a flower, leaf, or rotten log. Take a big sniff of each one.

Describe to a friend what you can smell.

## Visit Green Zoo Green You!

Every day we make choices that impact our environment. At the Zoo we sort our rubbish, monitor and reduce our water and energy use and make environmentally responsible purchases.

What can you do to be a Green You?

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Check out some of our awesome New Zealand native animals at Twilight - Te Ao Māhina, and The Roost - Te Pae Manu.



**HAVE FUN TRYING OUT THE FOLLOWING EXPERIMENTS AT HOME OR AT SCHOOL!**

## **Make your own Solar Water Purifier!**

If you got lost in the bush you would need water much more than you would need food. Unfortunately, you can't always be sure if the water you find is good to drink. With just a few things from your lunchbox, you can make a solar water purifier to produce clean, drinkable water.

You'll need: Lunchbox, empty yoghurt pot, glad wrap and two small rocks.

1. Get your water source and pour it into your lunchbox so that it comes up the side by 2cm. Leave the lid off your lunchbox.
2. Put a small rock in your yoghurt pot and put the pot in the middle of your lunchbox.
3. Cover the top of your lunchbox with glad wrap so that it's nice and tight. Place the second rock on the glad wrap, directly over the yoghurt pot.
4. Leave in the sun for an hour.
5. When you come back, check if there's water inside the yoghurt pot. It should be clear and have no smell.
6. Drink it!

## **Seed Germination Race**

Seeds are interesting little things. Plants produce seeds so that their species can thrive. How quickly a seed germinates, or grows, can depend on a lot of things. With this experiment discover what helps a seed to grow into a plant faster!

You'll need: A tray, potting mix, four melon or pumpkin seeds, sandpaper and water.

1. Fill the tray with potting mix, making sure that it's evenly spread out.
2. Prepare one of each of your four seeds, in the following ways:
  - a. 1 seed soaked in water overnight
  - b. 1 seed scratched all over with sandpaper
  - c. 1 seed scratched all over with sandpaper and then soaked in water overnight
  - d. 1 seed that is left untouched (the control).
3. Once your seeds are ready, plant them in the tray at an equal distance apart. Make sure you know which one is a, b, c and d!
4. Put them in a shady place and wait.
5. Which seed pops up from the soil first? Why do you think that might be?