

# Scavenger Hunt 1

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- Find or sketch a leaf that looks like it may have been food for an animal. What kind of animal do you think ate this leaf?
  
- Find or sketch a flower; does this flower grow on a tree, a shrub, or a small plant? Label all the parts of a flower that you know.
  
- Choose a nearby tree and, if you wish, identify it by looking up “Tree ID” online. Is this tree native to New York? If you’re not sure, take a guess. Why do you think it is or isn’t native?
  
- Use a pencil and a piece of paper to do a bark rubbing of the tree you identified (place the paper against the trunk and lightly scribble over it with the pencil). What benefit do you think this texture of trunk has for the tree?



- Sketch a plant that represents each of the following four forest layers (make 4 separate sketches): herbaceous, shrub, understory, and canopy.
  
- Find and sketch a home that an animal has made in a tree.
  
- Find a tree that has an odd shape. What do you think happened to this tree in its lifetime?



## Scavenger Hunt 2

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- Find or sketch a leaf that looks like it may have been food for an animal. Which animal do you think might have eaten it?
  
- Find and sketch a home that an animal has made in a tree.
  
- Find and sketch an animal that lives in the soil layer of the forest. You may lift a log (put it back when you are done!) or dig through the leaves on the ground to investigate.
  
- Find and sketch an animal that is not an insect; is this animal a herbivore, carnivore, or omnivore? How do you know?



- Find and sketch some scat (animal waste) or other physical evidence such as footprints or fur.
  
- Watch carefully until you see two animals interacting. What is their interaction? How would you describe the relationship between these animals?
  
- Do you see any animals here that you have seen in a more populated city environment? How do they act here that is similar or different?



## Scavenger Hunt 3

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- Find and sketch an animal that eats nonliving material (dead leaves, etc.)
  
- Find and sketch a mushroom or other type of fungus.
  
- Find a stump or rotting log; sketch it and describe it in detail. What does it look and feel like? What did you find under and around it? Be sure to place the log back when you are done.
  
- Investigate the leaf litter (leaves on the ground). What do you see in it? What does it look and feel like? Put a small sample of it in the bug box provided.



- How many different types of insects or animals did you find in your searching? Why is it important for the health of the forest to have many different species?

- What do all the previous discoveries you've made have in common?



## Scavenger Hunt 4

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- Find two types of rocks. What is similar about them? What is different?
  
- Find some water in the forest. Describe the area around the water. Do you see any animals in this area? If there is no standing water that you can see, how do you think animals in this forest get their water?
  
- Find a sunny spot and a shady spot in the forest. Estimate the temperature in each of these spots. What else is different about these spots? Pay attention to the plants that are growing here.
  
- Is there wind or a breeze in the forest? If so, how does it affect the forest?



- Dig a small hole in the ground provided and describe the soil. Is it sandy? Moist? Rocky? How do you think the soil type impacts the plants?
  
- Choose any tree or plant you see. Think about the extreme weather it has to put up with in New York: snow, heat, heavy rain, strong winds. How is the tree specially adapted to these conditions? Does it look very different from plants that wouldn't have to deal with these weather patterns?

