

## GET OUTSIDE BOOK CLUB ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

- Find a tree with branches low enough to reach, then climb up and enjoy the view.
- Roll over an old log or a large stone and look for insects, fungus, spiders and salamanders!
- Dig a hole to see what might be living beneath the ground. How deep can you dig before you reach water?
- Discover a new place by hiking along a path you've never been on before.
- Follow a set of tracks to see where they lead you!
- Spend the afternoon exploring a creek. Splash around, turn over rocks, and look for fossils, minnows, toads and crawdads.
- Enjoy playing outside in the rain. Put on your rain gear then splash through puddles and look for worms!
- Take some toys from inside and play with them in a new, outdoor setting like the sand box, garden or in a tree.
- Visit a pond or river and try to catch a frog, toad, or crawdad.
- Find a mud puddle, or mix some water with dirt to make a mud puddle to play in. Squish the mud between your toes, paint your face with it, or form shapes made out of mud and let them harden as they dry.
- Rake up a big pile of leaves and jump into them, or ride your bike or tricycle right through the middle of it!
- Skip stones across the water at the edge of a stream, lake or pond.
- See where your nose takes you! Find at least five interesting plants to smell. Which is your favorite?
- Find a secret spot in nature. Hide quietly and notice all the sounds, smells, and sights that surround you.
- Experiment with water by collecting natural items to see which float and which do not.
- Take a walk at night. Look for nocturnal animals, gaze at the moon and stars and listen to the sounds of nature after dark.
- Find a non-flying insect and watch it for a while. Is it traveling somewhere, is it gathering food, is it making a nest?
- Listen to the bird songs around you. Can you guess which bird is making which sound?
- Take some nature photos and share your pictures with family and friends, telling them about your experiences.
- Pack a picnic and eat outside on a blanket.
- Enjoy a campfire at night. Sing songs, tell stories, and make s' mores!
- Go fishing with a friend.
- Camp outside in your back yard or at a park.
- Visit a MetroPark for an afternoon of family fun!
- Find interesting stones, fossils, or shells and start a collection.
- Make a fall bouquet by gathering wildflowers, weeds, tall grasses and fall leaves.
- Collect items from nature, such as leaves, feathers, seeds, pinecones or sticks and make a mobile or collage.
- Try to make a miniature floating raft or boat using buoyant leaves or bark. Float your boat down a stream to see where it goes.
- Make a fort or shelter to play in, using bark, branches, or leaves. A good place to start is under a bush or against a fallen tree.
- Start a spring flower garden by planting tulip, daffodil, or hyacinth bulbs this fall!
- Fix an imaginary meal made from natural yard litter. Be sure to include favorites like pine needle tea, mud pies, and a leaf sandwich!
- Find a comfortable spot to lie on the ground and look up at the sky to find shapes in the clouds.
- Invite some stuffed animals outdoors with you to enjoy a tea party.
- Make a fairy house using natural items such as bark, grasses, leaves, pinecones, and stones. Include a bed, a cup, and a snack to entice the fairies to visit!
- Make a wish upon a star, or seed.