### Observing Nature

**With permission, go outside. Write down different wildlife or nature that you see and hear. Think about the animals on the list. Why do they live there? Do they interact with humans? Why do or don't they interact with humans? (If there are few animals think about why there are so few.)**

**Time:** 20 mins  
**Supplies Needed:** Pen and paper  
**Animal Habitats Badge**

### Oil Spills

**Fill a pan or bowl with water, then add cooking oil to it. Then, try different methods of getting the oil out such as skimming it off with a spoon or soaking it out with a paper towel or cotton balls. What else could be used? What worked best? How do scientists clean up real oil spills? Look up some methods online.**

**Time:** 20 mins  
**Supplies Needed:** Pan/bowl, water, cooking oil, misc. objects, internet access  
**Animal Habitats Badge**

### Observation Game

**Define observation. Why is it important? What is the difference between observation and just looking at things? Next, grab a random assortment of objects and place them on the table. Observe the objects for 30 seconds then close your eyes for 30 seconds. Have someone rearrange the objects then point out which objects moved. Repeat!**

**Time:** 15 mins  
**Supplies Needed:** Misc. objects  
**Detective Badge**
At Home Activities for Juniors

Solve a Crime

Put your sleuthing skills to the test and solve a crime! Either make a scavenger hunt for someone to follow or solve some 5-minute mysteries like the ones at www.5minutemystery.com/

Time: 25 mins
Supplies Needed: Internet access (optional)

Plan Your Dream Garden

Make a leaf rubbing by placing paper over a leaf and rubbing it with crayon or chalk. Girls can try it with soft and hard leaves to see if there is a difference!

Time: 10 mins
Supplies Needed: Magazines or printed images, glue, scissors

Make a Mini Zen Garden

Research and look at pictures of Zen gardens, then go outside and collect rocks to make your own mini Zen gardens. Do you feel calmer?

Time: 20 mins
Supplies Needed: None
Finding Lift-the-Spirit Songs

Put together a program of songs for when people need to be cheered up (i.e. keeping little kids occupied when they can't go outside, or for senior citizens when visiting). Then perform some for your audience at home!

Time: 10

Supplies Needed: Internet access (optional)

Make up a Song to Share a Message

Come up with a song about why you like Girl Scouts and share it with at least one other person. The tune can be made up or from a real song but get creative! Add some dance moves!

Time: 25 mins

Supplies Needed: None

Tackle a Problem

Identify a problem at home, focus on physical things like cleaning or organization. Then brainstorm ways to fix it and put a solution into action. Examples include: organizing a bookshelf, pulling weeds or cleaning a bathroom.

Time: 30 mins  
Supplies Needed: None
At Home Activities for Juniors

**Become a Laundry Expert**

_Talk to whoever does the laundry in your home, and learn how to do it. Do a load of laundry, making sure to fold the dry clothes. Finally, become a clothes organization guru. Think of different ways to efficiently organize your closet and then do it!_

*Time:* 20 mins  
*Supplies Needed:* None  
*Independence Badge*

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**Walking! A Healthy Lifestyle**

_Go online and research the health benefits of walking (with a trusted source such as the Mayo Clinic). Go on a brisk (quick) walk around the house or neighborhood. Reflect on how you feel afterwards._

*Time:* 25 mins  
*Supplies Needed:* Internet access  
*Independence Badge*

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**Create Art Inspired by Wildlife**

_Go outside and observe wildlife in your area. Think about the way their bodies are (the different colors, textures, and parts). Then create an art piece (painting, drawing, collage) that shows a new animal that would be suited for your environment (i.e., a frog with a wide tail to fan itself during heat waves)._  

*Time:* 20 mins  
*Supplies Needed:* Misc. art supplies  
*Outdoor Art Explorer Badge*
Make Something! Make an Impression.

GO OUTSIDE AND RESPECTFULLY COLLECT ITEMS FROM NATURE (I.E. A LEAF OFF OF THE GROUND INSTEAD OF OFF THE TREE) THEN MAKE A RUBBING OF THE ITEM BY PLACE A SHEET OF PAPER ON TOP OF THE ITEM THEN RUBBING A CRAYON WHERE IT IS.

**Time:** 20 mins  
**Supplies Needed:** Paper, crayons, nature

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Be a Nature Photographer

SHOOT MICRO (SMALL) AND MACRO (BIG) PHOTOS. A MACRO SHOT IS ZOOMED OUT SO YOU SEE THE WHOLE SCENE, A MICRO SHOT IS ZOOMED IN SO YOU ONLY SEE A BIT OF IT AND IT BECOMES HARD TO TELL WHAT IT IS. PRACTICE TAKING THESE TYPES OF SHOTS OUTSIDE. TAKE A SERIES OF PHOTOS WHERE YOU GET CLOSER AND CLOSER TO AN OBJECT.

**Time:** 20 mins  
**Supplies Needed:** Camera access