Keeping a wildlife journal is a great way to build both observation and writing skills. You don’t have to go far – you’d be surprised what is going on just outside your front door!

**Directions:**

**Creating the Journal:**
(You may want to ask an adult for some help.)

1. Fold several sheets of paper in half so that you create a booklet.
2. Bind the pages of your book by punching holes along the left side and tying them together with ribbon or string. Or unfold the booklet and staple along the fold.
3. Customize the journal by creating an illustration on the cover.

**Using the Journal:**

1. Write the day’s date.
2. With a grown-up, go outside and walk in your yard or a nearby park. Take notice of what you see.
   - Did you see any animals? Birds? Insects?
   - Where are they living?
   - What are they doing?
   - How many are there?
   - What time of day is it?
3. Write down notes or sketch a picture in your journal, so that you have a record of the thing you saw.
4. After a few entries, take a look back at the things you saw. How were things different each time? What was the same?

**Materials**

- Several sheets of unlined paper
- Hole punch or stapler for binding
- Ribbon or string to bind
- Markers, pencils or crayons

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What I Observed

Nature Notes

Date

Location

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