

# Kids Explore!



## Noisy Nature Scavenger Hunt

Next time you go on a walk in your neighborhood or a nearby park, take note of the noises you hear. How many on the list below can you “find”?

- Singing.** If you hear a bird singing a long, complex melody or one with a pattern, you’re probably hearing a “song.” Bird songs are used to attract mates or defend territory.
- Calling.** If you hear a bird making a short, sharp sound, it’s probably a “call.” Bird calls are usually shorter and simpler than “songs” and are used for sounding alarms or keeping groups together.
- Knock-knock-knocking.** If you hear this sort of noise, it might be a woodpecker. See if you can find one looking for bugs in an old dead tree.
- Crunching.** Green growing leaves may not talk, but dry fallen ones make a nice crunch when you walk through them on the ground!



- Whooshing.** Is there water flowing in a creek or river nearby? If not, see if you can hear a temporary river whooshing down your street after a rain storm.
- Buzzing.** Close your eyes when you're standing near a patch of flowers. Can you hear bees and bugs visiting?

- Whispering or wailing.** Wind makes all sorts of wild sounds when it passes through trees or dances with rain!
- Dripping.** You may have to wait until it rains to hear this one. Or listen carefully after someone waters their garden.
- Squeaking.** You might hear this one if a squirrel talks to you from a tree top! Or, for a completely different kind of squeak, listen for branches rubbing together in the wind.
- ????????? What else do you hear? Nature is noisy!**

