



# HABITAT HELPER

## LIVING WITH WILDLIFE

### Activity 10

#### ESTIMATED TIME



50+ minutes

#### LOCATION



Outside

#### SUGGESTED GROUPING



Individual or  
Group

#### ACTIVITY TYPE



Craft

**MATERIALS:** Paper, Pencil/Pen & Computer/Smart Phone/Tablet.

### INTRODUCTION

The areas we have built our homes and cities were home to a huge variety of animals long before we lived here. Many animals still live alongside us, and some have even changed their behavior due to humans. We must recognize we are part of the solution to keep these animals thriving. If we can help provide them the resources they need, we can help reduce conflict and support the wildlife around us.

In this activity, we will create a space around your home to help wildlife thrive alongside us.

### HOW-TO

#### 1. Prepare the activity (5 minutes)

Take a look at some of the links below to see some ways you can help animals in your neighborhood.

#### 2. Go outside and observe (15 minutes)

Go outside and spend some time walking around your yard, local park, or greenspace. Take pauses listening, looking for signs of wildlife, look extra close around plants, rocks, and water.

#### 3. Record your observations (5 minutes)

Record any observations you made.

#### 4. Create a habitat helper plan (10 minutes)

Take some time to think about what would make the space better for wildlife. Does it need a source of water? Is there food such as berries or seeds? Are there different types of shelter such as rock piles, bushes, or trees?

#### 5. ACT! (10 minutes)

Take action! Do one or more things to help make this space a better habitat for wildlife. Make sure your action is something you can do safely. Think about simple actions such as building a pile of rocks or sticks for shelter, putting out a dish of water for birds and insects, or talking to your family about planting native plants.

#### 6. Wrap-up (5 minutes)

Over the next few days check on your space. Do you notice any wildlife using it?

### LEARN MORE

- Assisting Pollinators <https://www.zoo.org/butterflygarden>
- Habitat Basics –PBS: <https://www.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/idptv11.sci.life.eco.d4khab/habitat/>