Wonder in Nature

Let’s follow our curiosities about nature around us!

Available in
English
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繁體中文 (TC)

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Welcome!

Greetings from Alameda County Library and welcome to the 2022 Summer Adventure! This year’s theme is Wonder in Nature.

The natural world—from Mission Peak to a mud puddle—provides us with endless opportunities to wonder. Every day I try to see, hear, taste, touch and smell new things in nature. Summer is a perfect time to Wonder in Nature, as we explore the great outdoors, our neighborhoods, even our indoor environments.

This Adventure Guide has activities—including reading!—for all to enjoy. Let’s follow our curiosity and go on this Summer Adventure together!

Cindy Chadwick
County Librarian

Table of Contents

Welcome & Table of Contents .............................. 2
What is Summer Adventure? ............................. 3
Gift Books & Prizes ........................................ 4
Submission Form ............................................. 5
Library & Community Resources ................. 7
Discover ....................................................... 8
Create ............................................................. 10
Connect .......................................................... 12
Want to Track Your Adventure? ................. 14
What I’d Like to Keep .................................... 15

What is Summer Adventure and how can I participate?

Summer Adventure is our reimagined Summer Reading Game: a chance to explore all types of learning during the summer. Follow your curiosity to complete the activities in this guide in a way that works best for you. You can do as many activities as you want and even invent your own! After you finish an activity, submit it online, by mail, or in person. You’ll get a free book gift for your first submission and be entered into the prize drawings (see page 4 for full submission and prize info).

- Complete any activity in this guide
- Read anything, or have someone read to you, as an activity
- Surprise us by creating your own activity
- Get inspired by a fellow adventurer from the Submission Showcase (aclibrary.org/summer) and reinterpret their idea in your own way as an activity. For example, if someone submitted a drawing you like, recreate it as a video, poem, story, etc.

This guide is for all ages and abilities

Activities are meant to be adapted for any adventurer. Interpret, create, complete, and present them in your own way. There are no wrong answers!

Example Activity:

- Use your senses to connect to the world around you
  To do this activity, you could:
- Explore your senses outside. Try a library book like Let’s Go for a Walk or Unseen City to guide your exploration.
- Connect to your breath or pay attention to your surroundings indoors.
- Use a sense you don’t usually focus on to take in the world around you for 5 minutes
- Notice nature large or small in your daily life
- Come up with your own interpretation: __________________________
Prize Instructions

**Book Gift**: Get a free book gift at your preferred library location after submitting your first activity! You will also be entered for future prize drawings.

**Prize Drawings**: Submit more activities throughout the summer to gain additional entries into the prize drawings for a chance at amazing prizes! More activities mean more chances for prizes!

**Submit entries** by these dates for the prize drawings: June 27, July 12, July 26, and August 15. You will be contacted by a library staff member if you are the lucky drawing prize recipient. Keep a lookout!

**Here’s How to Enter:**

**Online**
Fill out an online submission form at: [aclibrary.org/summer](http://aclibrary.org/summer)

**By Mail**
Send a submission form to:
Alameda County Library
Attn: Summer Adventure
2450 Stevenson Blvd.
Fremont, CA, 94538

**In Person**
Put submission forms in the Summer Adventure submission box, available at library locations during visiting hours.

**NOTE**: Prizes can only be picked up at an AC Library location.

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Prize Entry Submission Form

Easy to complete online: [aclibrary.org/summer](http://aclibrary.org/summer)

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First Name *(required)*

Last Name *

Age group (years old) *

0-5
6-12
13-17
18+

An email OR phone number is required to contact prize winners.

Email

Phone

Preferred library location *

Alby
Cherryland
Irvington
Niles
Social Justice Services

Castro Valley
Dublin
Mobile Library
REACH
Union City

Centerville
Fremont Main
Newark
San Lorenzo
Which activity inspired your submission? * ____________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

Would you like be included in the Submission Showcase?

☐ Yes, AC Library can publicly share my submission.
   We will not include any personal information to protect your privacy.

Add a note about your activity. ____________________________

How did you hear about Summer Adventure?

☐ Family ☐ Friend ☐ School ☐ Library
☐ Website ☐ Social Media ☐ Radio ☐ Newspaper

Other: ____________________________________________

Is this your first Summer Adventure submission?

☐ Yes, ever ☐ Yes, this year ☐ No, this is an additional entry

Find links to all these resources and many more at bit.ly/sa22resources

For more submission forms, submit online at aclibrary.org/summer OR visit your preferred library location
Enjoy a story where nature or science plays a big role
Examples:
• Call the Listen Inn at 833-990-800K (2665)
• Learn about a climate activist
• Read a story from the point of view of an animal

Learn something new about a native Californian plant or animal

Think up or learn about ways to help save and protect our planet

Use your senses to connect to the world around you (see page 3 for ideas)

Pursue your curiosity and explore beyond your daily path
Examples:
• Learn the history of your surroundings as you explore them
• Visit a trail, museum, zoo, or planetarium of your choice (see page 7)
• Learn about a place you’ve never visited
• Try a new route on your way somewhere
Create
Use your creativity and caring to enrich our world.

- Plant or nurture something living and enjoy what happens when you care for it
- Express your appreciation for nature in an artistic way
- What do you see through your window?
- Use something old to create something new
  Examples:
  - Restore an old possession
  - Upcycle or make something new with recycled items
  - Use green waste for composting
- Create, find, or imagine your very own space for quiet wondering
- Tell a nature story
  Examples:
  - Consider an animal’s point of view
  - Imagine nature in another world or on another planet
  - Pick an object in your daily life and trace its origins in nature
  - Share what you see in a cloud

Did you know the library has seed kits? Ask for one at any location!
Connect

We’re all a part of nature! Take time to recognize and connect to the people you share the Earth with.

- Attend an AC Library program in person or online
- Explore a local group that cares for the Earth or seeks to understand it better
- Share something you wonder about with someone else and look for answers together (find lots of resources on page 7)
- Start or end the day with an act of kindness
- Look up at the sky and wonder what someone near or far might see at the same time
  Examples:
  - Imagine what a fellow adventurer sees
  - Consider how the sky looks from the other side of the planet
  - Wonder how light pollution, the time of day, and the weather affect what you see

Connect

Draw a bird

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Draw a bird
What I’d like to keep with me from my summer adventure:

My favorite activity

My favorite book

Something I’ll remember

What I’m still wondering about

Want to track your progress?
Color in a California poppy for any way you’ve participated in Summer Adventure (See page 3 for a full list of choices)