

Backyard Critter Hunt

During these times, we understand it can be tricky to keep the kiddos entertained and engaged. We want to share a fun activity you can do right in your own backyard, a Backyard Critter Hunt!

This time of year with the cool spring temperatures, it can be tricky to find insects, worms or other crawly friends. But, you would be surprised how many critters are hiding under rocks, in wood piles or in those leftover piles of leaves in the yard.

Tools you'll need:

- √ Shoes and clothes you don't mind getting dirty!

Once you have your tools you are ready to explore.

- √ Carefully pick up rocks to see who is at home. You may find a worm, roly-poly or a beetle.
- √ Gently dig through the mulch around your trees in search of worms, roly-polys and millipedes.
- √ If you have a wood pile, roll over a log to check for slugs or slug eggs.
- √ Look for animal homes around your yard.
 - Nests in trees
 - Holes in the ground
 - Holes in trees

Please be sure to return all of your critter friends to their homes, they help keep your yard healthy.

Not finding any critters? Create your own Backyard Critter Hunt by hiding any toy animals you may have at the house.

- √ **Have the kids take turns hiding and finding the various animals**
 - Were some easier to find than others? Which ones? Some animals blend in better because of camouflage!
- √ **To sneak in a little learning and have the kids sort the animals into groups (snakes, insects, spiders, turtles, mammals etc.)**