

My Special Wild Place Guide

Name _____ Date _____

A Sense of Place:

Find a tree, a park, a ravine, or any place with some plants like a garden by your home or place of work where you can make the time to sit daily, a few times a week, or as often as you can.

Plan to sit there for at least a half hour at a time, if possible, but even ten to fifteen minutes at a time is something.

Don't rush, take your time. You'll know when your special place finds you!!

My special place is _____

Below, describe your special place. Also, draw a sketch of it or of one thing about this place that makes it special.

Why did you choose this spot (or why do you think it invited you)?

List what animals, like birds, squirrels, etc. and any insects you notice at your place.

Being with your special place is great to do alone, but especially if you are young, you will need an adult to observe with you. Who might that person be, who can share this place with you?

Create or buy a drawing pad or notebook that you can use when you are at your special place or after you visit so you can record observations. Learn to be still and quiet and just watch and/or listen (depending on any visual or hearing impairment). Use the following template to guide you. Enjoy!!

Name of Special Place _____
(You can call this place whatever you like, what it is actually called, or, make up a name for it!)

Date _____

Observations:

Write or draw exactly what occurs. What is happening? How do the birds behave? What did you see and hear? You can create a separate entry with a checklist of all the different animals and insects you notice as well as a simple "field guide" to your place with all the different plants, too.

Feelings:

How do you feel today? What kinds of feelings did you experience while being with your special place? You can write a poem, draw a picture, or just free write.

Inspiration:

Any thoughts or ideas that you have because of today's observing? Did anything inspire you?

Action:

Is there anything you can do, like start an art project or community project, that stems from what you saw or experienced today? Can you join a local or national wildlife organization, like the Audubon Society for example, and learn more about how you can protect wild places and animals? Visit www.MarianneBickett.com to download Art and Nature activities for free!