



**Title:** 2104 Nature Journaling: Becoming a Scientist **Type:** Outreach  
**Level:** 1 **Length:** 120 minutes  
**Location:** Local Park: Arabia Mountain **Limit:** 1 class

### **Program Description**

Students will meet at a local park and create their own nature journals. They will make detailed observations of plants and animals, play games to hone their observation skills, and make predictions about the needs of plants and animals based on their observations. Students will learn how a nature journal can be used as a scientific tool to study phenomena.

### **Standards**

Priority Standard:

- **S1L1:** Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information about the basic needs of plants and animals
- “First graders create drawings that correctly depict something being described. The students are asked to plan and carry out simple investigations to understand patterns (shadows, sound, weather, and daily needs of plants and animals) observed in the world around them and make predictions based on these investigations. They follow safety rules.”

Review Standard:

**S1E1:** Obtain, evaluate, and communicate weather data to identify weather patterns.

Supporting Standards:

- ELAGSE1SL4:** Describe people, places, things, and events with relevant details, expressing ideas and feelings clearly.
- ELAGSE1SL5:** Add drawings or other visual displays to descriptions when appropriate to clarify ideas, thoughts, and feelings.
- ELAGSE1SL6:** Produce complete sentences when appropriate to task and situation. (See grade 1 Language standards 1 and 3 for specific expectations.)

### **Vocabulary**

Temperature, environment, habitat, root, stem, leaf, seed, shelter, senses

**Pre-Visit Activities**

Review vocabulary, practice reading thermometers, and practice drawing objects from nature.

**Post-Visit Activity**

Continue to use Nature Journals to track weather and observe plants and animals in the schoolyard. Create an account with citizen science database [https://www.usanpn.org/natures\\_notebook](https://www.usanpn.org/natures_notebook) to track student observations throughout the year.

**Resources:**

Field Journaling With Students lesson plans:

<http://beetlesproject.org/resources/for-program-leaders/field-journaling-with-students/#1447702870437-ba804ab5-cb15>

**Note:**

This program takes place outside at a local park. Make sure students are dressed for the weather and bring water bottles. This program include about a mile of walking on nature trails.