

# Nature Passport



Get Movin'.



Take a Romp with Ringo on a  
Nature Scavenger Hunt!





Stamp  
here

## Aldo Leopold Foundation

E13701 Levee Road, Baraboo - 608-355-0279

[www.aldoleopold.org](http://www.aldoleopold.org)

Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm; Saturday, 10am-4pm

### Your Movin' Mission:

Leopold wrote an essay in *A Sand County Almanac* called "If I Were the Wind."

Look at the plants and trees around you and try to imitate the movement of the leaves and stems from the wind.



### Nature Record:

Record some information about the wind. Is it a calm or windy day? How can you tell? Can you tell what direction the wind is blowing? What clues can you find to help figure out if the wind is coming from the north, south, east, or west?

Wind power is one type of renewable energy that is being used to replace dependence on fossil fuels. At the Leopold Center we use another type of renewable energy: solar panels. They take energy from the sun and change that into electricity that can be used in our green building.



## Aldo Leopold Nature Center

330 Femrite Drive, Monona - 608-221-0404

[www.aldoleopoldnaturecenter.org](http://www.aldoleopoldnaturecenter.org)

Nature Center: Monday-Friday, 9am-4pm; Saturday-Sunday, 10am-2pm;

Grounds: dawn to dusk every day

Stamp  
here

### Your Movin' Mission:

Flutter through the ALNC prairie like a monarch! Are you hungry after your migration? Can you spot any milkweed to lay your eggs on or flowers to drink nectar from?



### Nature Record:

Check out our Phenology Garden to see what is blooming. What insects, birds, or animals seem to be drawn to these plants? Record your observations here.

Did you know Aldo Leopold kept records throughout his life of his nature observations? Scientists still use his phenology records today!



## Bethel Horizons

4651 Highway 22, Dodgeville - 608-257-3577

[www.bethelhorizons.org](http://www.bethelhorizons.org)

Visit between dawn and dusk

### Your Movin' Mission:

Inside the Nature Center building, climb a tree to get a bird's-eye view of things.



### Nature Record:

Draw what you see!  
Are there animals in  
your view? How  
many shades of  
green do you see?

Tree climbing is a great physical activity. How many muscles do you think you used to get up and down? Did you know woodpeckers are such good tree climbers because they have four toes? Two pointed forward and two pointed backward.



## Cherokee Marsh

6098 N. Sherman Ave., Madison - 608-848-9121

[www.naturenet.com/Cherokee/](http://www.naturenet.com/Cherokee/)

Trails open from dawn to dusk

Stamp  
here

### Your Movin' Mission:

Find the metal boardwalk through the marsh and follow it to the wooden observation platform. How's the view?



### Nature Record:

Count how many steps you took to the top and write the number below. You can also draw the view, including any plants or animals that you see.

Many Sandhill Cranes make their home here. They are known to "paint" their feathers brown with mud to blend in. Can you spot any hiding in the marsh grass?



## Henry Vilas Zoo

702 S. Randall Ave., Madison - 608-266-4732

[www.vilaszoo.org](http://www.vilaszoo.org)

Buildings: 10am-4pm; Grounds: 9:30am-5pm; daily

### Your Movin' Mission:

What are the animals doing? Leap like a lemur, run like a rhino, and amble like an aardvark! Can you do it too?



### Nature Record:

Each time you visit the zoo throughout the year, watch how the animals act and what plants are blooming in different seasons.

There is a rhythm to life at the zoo.

Come watch our 'Arctic Passage' exhibit being built - the construction site changes daily!



---

**International Crane Foundation**  
E11376 Shady Lane Rd., Baraboo - 608-356-9462  
[www.savingcranes.org](http://www.savingcranes.org)  
Free admission with your Nature Passport!  
9am-5pm daily (April 15 - October 31)

Stamp  
here

### Your Movin' Mission:

See if you can spot any cranes and study their movements.  
Put together a routine and, once you're home, dance like a crane!



### Nature Record:

Write down action  
words or sketches  
for all your moves.

Cranes are known for their unique dances, which they use for courtship, social skills, exercise, and just plain fun. Their dances are filled with jumps, leaps, head spins, wing flaps and twirls!



Stamp  
here

## Jackson School Forest

1660 Fritz Rd., Verona - 608-663-5217

[envedweb.madison.k12.wi.us/school\\_forest](http://envedweb.madison.k12.wi.us/school_forest)

Trails open from dawn to dusk; Park in Madison School Forest day lot/  
Olson Oak Woods State Natural Area

### Your Movin' Mission:

Walk the narrow Prairie Relic Trail (to the right of the large parking lot sign) to find the Grandfather Oak (look to the left).

Count how many paces it took to get there!



### Nature Record:

The Grandfather Oak is very old and VERY large! Count how many paces it takes you to walk around the base and record it here.

When Grandfather Oak was young, it stood by itself in a prairie—there was no forest here. Think about how many changes this tree has seen. This oak tree was already old when the European settlers came.





**Lussier Family Heritage Center**  
3101 Lake Farm Rd., Madison - 608-224-3604  
[www.countyofdane.com/lwrd/parks/heritage](http://www.countyofdane.com/lwrd/parks/heritage)  
Center: 8am-4:30pm; Grounds: Dawn - 10pm



### Your Movin' Mission

The Lussier Family Heritage Center has some great bike trails leading to and from the building. Bring your bike and pedal away!



#### Nature Record:

Map out your bike route on this page.

Did you know bicycling is nearly 4 times more efficient than walking?  
You should be able to cover a lot of ground!



Stamp  
here

## MacKenzie Center

W7303 Cty Rd C5, Poynette - 608-635-8105

Website: search "MacKenzie" at [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov)

Grounds: dawn to dusk; Wildlife Area & Museums: 8am-4pm daily in summer

### Your Movin' Mission:

Hike through the wildlife area and get face-to-face with some of Wisconsin's native animals. If you arrive after 4pm, choose one of our five nature trails to hike and explore. Wherever you hike look for signs along the path that an animal has been there recently. Perhaps you will find a track, a nest, or some scat!



### Nature Record:

Draw the animal signs (tracks, scat, or homes) you found.

All of the animals in MacKenzie's Wildlife Habitat Area are native to Wisconsin. Learn interesting facts about them during your visit – for example, a male bison can weigh around 2,000 lbs and reach speeds up to 35-40 miles per hour.



---

**Madison Children's Museum**  
100 N. Hamilton St., Madison - 608-256-6445  
[www.madisonchildrensmuseum.org](http://www.madisonchildrensmuseum.org)  
9:30am-5 pm daily; Closed Mondays during the school year



### Your Movin' Mission:

Take a look at the alternative energy demonstrations on the Rooftop Ramble. Then, spin around like a wind turbine. Can you feel the energy you are producing?



### Nature Record:

Sketch a wind turbine  
or a solar panel here.

You can see real-time energy monitoring from the Rooftop Ramble's solar panels – check [madisonchildrensmuseum.org/exhibits](http://madisonchildrensmuseum.org/exhibits) when you get home!



Stamp  
here

## Madison Conservation Parks

Various Locations - 608-266-4711

[www.cityofmadison.com/parks/parks/conservation](http://www.cityofmadison.com/parks/parks/conservation)

Grounds and trails open from dawn to dusk. Visit the website for park information.

### Your Movin' Mission:

Visit a Madison park and take a hike! While you wander, try finding objects for each color of the rainbow: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet.



### Nature Record:

Sketch and label each  
color object you  
spotted today.  
Bring your crayons!

There are 14 different and unique conservation parks in Madison.  
Try to hike them all!



## Olbrich Botanical Gardens

3330 Atwood Avenue, Madison - 608-246-4550

[www.olbrich.org](http://www.olbrich.org)

Outdoor gardens: daily 8am-8pm (6pm in October, 4pm Nov-March);

Conservatory: daily 10am-4pm (5pm Sunday)

Stamp  
here

### Your Movin' Mission:

Exercise is good for your body and your mind. After walking through the outdoor gardens and Conservatory, find a quiet place in the Serenity Garden or Conservatory. Now let your mind wander instead of your feet! Sit quietly for at least 5 minutes.



### Nature Record:

Notice the trees and smaller plants, temperature, wind, insects, bird songs, and any animals that appear. Draw a picture and write a few sentences about what you see, smell and hear.

Rachel Carson, (1907-64) was a great ecologist, biologist, and writer. She wrote:

“Those who contemplate the beauty of the earth find resources of strength that will endure as long as life lasts.”



**Troy Gardens**  
**a Project of Community Groundworks**  
500 Block of Troy Drive, Madison - 608-240-0409  
[www.communitygroundworks.org](http://www.communitygroundworks.org)  
Grounds open from dawn to dusk

### **Your Movin' Mission:**

Hike the trails of the prairie and find a rock to climb on.  
Turn your body from East to West like the sun rising and setting over the prairie.



### **Nature Record:**

Draw a picture of  
an insect or bird you  
saw in the prairie  
and the plant it  
landed on.

Early settlers used compass plants for navigation because their rough, sandpaper like the leaves orient themselves north and south to reduce exposure to the harsh midday sun.



## UW Arboretum

1207 Seminole Highway, Madison - 608-263-7888

[www.uwarboretum.org](http://www.uwarboretum.org)

Trails and grounds 7am-10pm;

Visitor Center 9:30am-4pm (opens 12:30pm weekends)

Stamp  
here

### Your Movin' Mission:

Dragonflies love the Arboretum's diverse ecosystems — prairies, wetlands, woodlands, and gardens. Walk the trails and see in how many of these different habitats you can spot them in.



### Nature Record:

Notice the large variety of insects while on your hike; draw one of them here.

Did you know that some dragonflies migrate to warmer climates in the winter? The Common green darner, a regular summer resident, is one of them.



Stamp  
here

## UW Geology Museum

1215 W. Dayton St., Madison - 608-262-1412

[www.geology.wisc.edu/~museum](http://www.geology.wisc.edu/~museum)

8:30am-4:30pm Monday-Friday; 9am-1pm Saturdays

### Your Movin' Mission:

Look up at the enormous *Pteranodon* in the museum's skeleton room.  
Its wings stretch out and soar over the other animals -  
reach your arms out and imagine you can fly!



### Nature Record:

How much bigger  
are these animals  
than you? Draw a  
picture of you  
standing next to a  
*Pteranodon*.

Make sure to look in this animal's mouth -  
*Pteranodon* means "flyer with no teeth" in Greek.





## Upham Woods

N194 Cty N, Wisconsin Dells - 608-254-6461

[www.uwex.edu/ces/4h/uphamwoods](http://www.uwex.edu/ces/4h/uphamwoods)

Open by reservation and for 2014 public family events July 12, July 25-27, September 27, October 24-26. To register or for more information visit: <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/4h/uphamwoods/programs/programspub.cfm>

Stamp  
here

### Your Movin' Mission

While participating in one of the scheduled activities, get moving around camp with one of Upham's nature scavenger hunts, and count how many animal signs you can find.



#### Nature Record:

What evidence of animals did you discover? Record them here.

Upham Woods was founded by two sisters who wanted to preserve and share their favorite outdoor area. What nature memories would you like to share?





# Nature Records

# Ringo Raccoon's Summer Scavenger Mission



Ringo the Raccoon has always been a scavenger. Now he needs your help on a special nature mission. This summer, get movin' at different Nature Net sites to see some of Ringo's favorite spots, romp outside, and learn some fun facts.

## It's easy! All you have to do is:

- Visit any or all of the Nature Net sites this summer with your family and friends.
- Check out Ringo's "Movin' Mission" & fun facts about his favorite features at each spot.
- Draw or write about your Nature Records on the pages of your Passport.
- Find the Nature Passport box at each site and stamp your Nature Passport!

## Some tips from Ringo:

- Dress for the weather - wear a hat, long sleeves and pants to protect yourself from sun, insects and other pests. Sturdy shoes are important, too!
- Respect all things - please do not pick wildflowers or plants.
- Pack out litter and trash.
- Stay on trails.
- Take photos, make memories, and leave only footprints!



## Nature Passport is made possible by:



**Nature Net:** *The Environmental Learning Network*  
c/o the Aldo Leopold Nature Center  
[www.naturenet.com](http://www.naturenet.com)  
608-221-0404



With generous  
support from:



This is not a school sponsored activity and the Madison Metropolitan School District does not approve, support, supervise or endorse this program/activity.