



Winter 2022 News



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DISCOVER CLUES TO MYSTERIES OF THE OUTDOOR WORLD

Our Mission is to inspire a lifelong love, curiosity & appreciation for the outdoor world and the series of connections that support life. **Nature Detectives** is a skill-building, lifestyle practice – a way of observing and behaving in the world.

2021 In Review

Online Classes

Students enjoyed meeting in online classes for each of our three seasons - **Fall: Tree as Habitat, Winter Wisdom, Spring: Nature in Motion.** and a bonus **Summer Session "Wildlife and Wild Things."** We met online first to discuss our activities, then students went outside to explore at home or neighborhood. They returned to share discoveries, writing & drawings in Nature Journal.

Return to Schools

In person classes resumed end of October at two schools. We started our third year at **Capital Christian Elementary School!** **David Lubin Elementary School** launched 2 new classes of 20 students each with a long waiting list. Both schools are located in Sacramento.

Website Resources

Nature Detectives at Home - Guide for Parents, Grandparents & Friends

Free Activity Guides downloads

Informational blogs

Discovery Guides for homeschool students and leaders

New Nature Discovery Books

Comments About Nature Detectives

"The children of CCE School love **Nature Detectives**. They start the countdown for our weekly classes on Monday! Janice is great with the kids and they love her!"

"Our family has truly enjoyed the online **Nature Detectives** program throughout the 2020-2021 school year. We love how Ms. Jan incorporated art and stories with nature and science observations ...a good balance of learning about nature both indoors and outdoors, even within our own backyard and neighborhood."

Learn more and get updates on coming events at <https://naturedetectivesusa.com> Contact Janice Kelley, Founder & Program Director by email at outdoorjan@att.net or call (916) 965-5246.

Clues & Views

Five Easy Ways to Explore the Outdoors

Color Walk. Child chooses two colored pencils or crayons at random. Got a short walk to search for a match to those colors. Bring a journal and they can identify and draw a picture.

Walk the Alphabet Trail. Find letter shapes outdoors - an H in a gate, V in a tree branch, O in a flower bloom.

Collect, Observe, Draw, Describe. Walking through your neighborhood to find fallen leaves, sticks, pinecones, feathers, or seed pods.

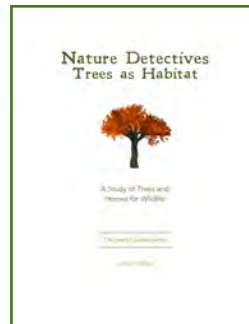
Deep Listening. Child lays flat on his or her back on soft ground and closes their eyes. Invite them to listen closely to all sounds they hear for 2-5 minutes. After sitting up with open eyes, ask them to identify & describe each sound they can remember: Loud or soft? High or low. Buzz or Whine?

Habitat High Rise. Child draws what he or she sees at their feet, knees, shoulders and above their head. This activity continues to build observation & literacy skills, while focusing on where objects fit within the landscape.

Nature Detectives Leader Training Coming Soon!

Want to lead a *Nature Detectives* program? A homeschool parent who wants to deliver *Nature Detectives* at home?

Training includes hands on practice from all three seasons and a copy of each related *Discovery Guide*, the *Orientation and All Season Guides*, and video lesson demonstrations. Watch website for details of its release.

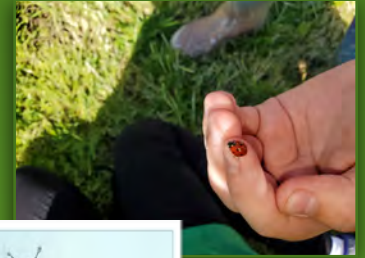


Nature Detectives in Action



Citizen Science

Lost Ladybug Project



With support of a \$700 supply grant from Youth Learning as Citizen Environmental Science. (YLACES.) Janice organized a Lost Ladybug Search on four consecutive Saturdays in March and April at four different neighborhood parks.

Nature Detectives were excited to be reunited and play outside as they searched for ladybugs. We found them during our fourth week after Easter when the temperature warmed enough so ladybugs were drawn out.

View our project video at <https://naturedetectivesusa.com/ladybug-search-begins/>

Quarterly Citizen Science Projects coming April, June, September and December 2022.