

# Young Naturalists Study Questions

## “Write, Sketch, Explore” Multidisciplinary Classroom Activities

Prepared by Mary Hoff and Julie Athman Ernst

Teachers guide for the Young Naturalists article “Write, Sketch, Explore” by Mary Hoff. Published in the September–October 2021 *Minnesota Conservation Volunteer*.

Find every issue online. Each story and issue is available in a searchable PDF format. Visit [www.mndnr.gov/mcvmagazine](http://www.mndnr.gov/mcvmagazine) and click on past issues.

### Study Questions

“Write, Sketch, Explore” by Mary Hoff. Published in the September–October 2021 *Minnesota Conservation Volunteer*.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

1. What four reasons does the article give for keeping a nature journal?
2. True or false: You should have special supplies to keep a nature journal.
3. Why might you close your eyes before you write in your nature journal?
4. Name three kinds of things might you include in your nature journal.
5. What does the article say you should you do when you get home from your nature journal adventure?
  - a. Take a shower
  - b. Check for ticks
  - c. Have cookies and milk
  - d. a and b
  - e. none of the above
6. What is the most important part of nature journaling?
7. True or false: A person keeping a nature journal should be a good artist.
8. Name three characteristics of a sound you might record on your sound map.
9. What reason does the story give for visiting the same place more than once?
  - a. So you can compare observations over time.
  - b. Because it is the only available place.
  - c. Because it is safer to visit a familiar place.

d. So you don't disturb too much nature.

10. Match the trait to the famous nature journal keeper:

Nature Journal Keeper	Traits
Edith Holden	Lived in Great Britain
Aldo Leopold	Lived in Wisconsin Lived in the early 1800s
Charles Darwin	Lived in the early 1900s Traveled the world
	Was an artist
	Was a naturalist

**Challenge Question:** Why does the story recommend writing down the date, time of day, weather, and description of the setting?

**Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments Practice Items**

“Write, Sketch, Explore” by Mary Hoff. Published in the September–October 2021 *Minnesota Conservation Volunteer*.

1. What is one thing the story tells us NOT to do in order to stay safe while nature journaling?
2. How might you find an answer to a question you have while nature journaling?
  - a. look it up
  - b. ask an expert
  - c. do an experiment
  - d. all of the above
3. Why is it fun to record when seasonal events happen?
4. How will keeping a nature journal help you?
5. How often should you write in your nature journal?
  - a. every day
  - b. every week
  - c. when someone tells you to

d. regularly

**Vocabulary**

“Write, Sketch, Explore” by Mary Hoff. Published in the September–October 2021  
*Minnesota Conservation Volunteer*.

acrostic – a type of poem made from the first letters of a word

customize – make specific to a purpose, person, or thing

haiku – a type of poem that typically has three lines with five, seven, and five syllables  
each

melodic – like a melody

mechanical – of or related to machines

rubbing – an image made by rubbing a writing utensil across paper over an object

texture – the way a surface looks or feels

+++