



Texas Connection

Activity #46

Schoolyard Safari

Teaching students how to think, not what to think, about the environment.

There is great diversity in the plants and animals that can be found in Texas and that diversity isn't just limited to designated wildlife areas. School areas also can be a great resource for students when it's time to learn about organisms and their environments. The Texas Parks and Wildlife Urban Wildlife Poster is a great resource for students.

After completing Schoolyard Safari in the Project Learning Tree guide, use Texas Nature Trackers to analyze the data your students have collected. The organization offers a variety of nature-monitoring projects that you and your students can help with. The Texas Nature Trackers projects involve general skills of observation and note taking. That means you don't have to be a scientist to do them. A mobile application is also available under the Get Involved section.

Texas Nature Trackers projects are geared to help Texans learn how to gather data about various species found on public lands or their own property. The data then is sent to biologists who use the information to develop a better understanding about the trends and management needs of various species in the state.

A data guide on the following pages can be used to complete the PLT activity. This mini book has been used successfully for urban students in the third through fifth grades.

Hint: Print on cardstock for durability and sturdiness.

Links

Texas Parks & Wildlife
Texas Nature Trackers

http://tpwd.texas.gov/huntwild/wild/wildlife_diversity/texas_nature_trackers/

Texas Parks and Wildlife
Watching Wildlife

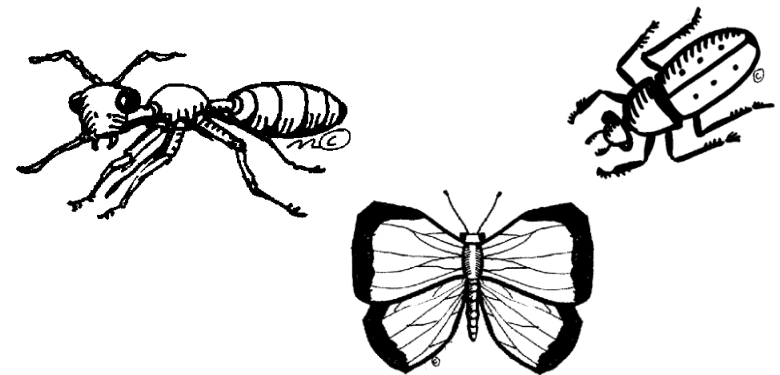
<http://tpwd.texas.gov/education/resources/texas-junior-naturalists/watching-wildlife>

Texas Parks and Wildlife
Wildlife Fact Sheets

<http://tpwd.texas.gov/huntwild/wild/species/>

School Habitat Discovery Adventure

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Name _____

Date _____

Draw a plant you
observed:

Describe your
plant:

Draw an animal you
observed:

Describe your
animal:

