

## 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:

1. Visit any or all of the Nature Net sites this summer with your family and friends.
2. Check out Ringo's "Movin' Mission" and fun facts about his favorite features.
3. Draw or write about your Nature Records on the pages of your Passport.
4. Find the Nature Passport box onsite & stamp your Passport to celebrate your success!

### Some tips from Ringo:

1. 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!
2. Respect all things - please do not pick wildflowers or plants.
3. Pack out litter and trash.
4. Stay on trails.
5. 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  
608-221-0404, ext. 5



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.

110515M

# Nature Passport



Get Movin'!



This Summer!

Take a Romp with Ringo on a Nature Scavenger Hunt!





**Aldo Leopold Foundation**  
E13701 Levee Road, Baraboo - 608-355-0279  
Monday - Saturday, 9am - 5pm



**Your Movin' Mission:**

Pretend you and your family or friends are a flock of geese. As you walk through the grounds, "fly" in a V and move with the wind.



**Nature Record:**

See if you can spot any geese and draw them here.

2 Aldo Leopold wrote in *A Sand County Almanac*, "The flock emerges from the low clouds, a tattered banner of birds, dipping and rising, blown up and blown down, blown together and blown apart, but advancing, the wind wrestling lovingly with each winnowing wing."

**Nature Records**





Tree climbing is a great physical activity.  
How many muscles do you think you used to get up and down?

Draw what  
you see!

Nature Record:



**Bethel Horizons**  
4651 Highway 22, Dodgeville - 608-257-3577  
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.



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?

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

Nature Record:



**Upham Woods**  
1194 Cty Hwy N, Wis. Dells - 608-254-6462  
Open by reservation;  
Open for public family events May 14 (Annual Stewardship Day, 11am - 3pm, RSVP),  
July 23 (Summer History Break, 1 - 4pm), and Oct. 8 (Autumn Splendor, 1 - 4pm)

**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.





Stamp  
here

### UW Geology Museum

1215 West Dayton Street, Madison - 608-262-1412  
8:30am - 4:30pm Monday-Friday; 9am - 1pm Saturdays

#### Your Movin' Mission:

Find the Vertebrate Room to see some real fossils of huge animals.  
Walk alongside each one and count how many paces long they are.  
Which is the biggest?



#### Nature Record:

Write or draw  
your answer here.

Did you know the bones of the Boaz mastodon were discovered in 1897  
by some Wisconsin kids playing outside?



Stamp  
here

### Cherokee Marsh

6098 N. Sherman Ave., Madison - 608-848-9121  
Trails open from dawn to dusk

#### 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 here.  
You can also draw  
the view, including  
any plants or  
animals 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?

The first animals at the zoo were deer in 1914. Animals today include alligators, bats, camels, birds, snakes, kangaroos and insects. Can you find them all?

Draw your favorite!

Nature Record:



Your Movin' Mission:  
From crawling to climbing and swinging to swimming, all of the zoo's animals move differently. Imitate the movements of each animal you see and decide which you like best.

Henry Vilas Zoo  
702 S. Randall St, Madison - 608-266-5922  
Grounds open 9:30am - 5pm  
Building open 10am - 4pm daily



No matter how you walk, it is always important to stay on designated trails so you do not disrupt wildlife!

Move like as many animals as you can and draw their tracks.

Nature Record:



Your Movin' Mission:  
Can you find any animal tracks? See if you can imitate how different animals get around – do they put one foot in front of the other (like a deer) or walk side-to-side (like a human)? Do they hop (like a rabbit) or lumber on four legs (like a bear)?

UW Arboretum  
1207 Seminole Highway, Madison - 608-263-7888  
Trails and grounds 7am - 10pm;  
Visitor Center 9:30am - 4pm (opens 12:30pm weekends)





Stamp here

**Troy Gardens**  
**a Project of Community Groundworks**  
500 Block of Troy Drive, Madison - 608-240-0409  
Grounds open from dawn to dusk

**Your Movin' Mission:**

Hike the trails that wind through the woodlands, prairie, gardens, and picnic areas of Troy Gardens. See if you can discover the secret hiding spot in the middle of the prairie!



**Nature Record:**

Draw a treasure map to the secret spot.

Pack a picnic lunch with farm-fresh food and see if you can spot any of those crops growing in the 5-acre community farm or gardens!



Stamp here

**International Crane Foundation**  
E11376 Shady Lane Rd, Baraboo - 608-356-9462  
Free admission with your Nature Passport!  
9am - 5pm daily

**Your Movin' Mission:**

See if you can spot any cranes and study their movements. Put together a routine and 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!

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!

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.

**Nature Record:**



**Jackson School Forest**  
W. Fritz Rd, Verona - 608-663-5217  
Trails open from dawn to dusk

**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!



“Those who contemplate the beauty of the earth find resources of strength that will endure as long as life lasts.”  
– Rachel Carson, (1907-64) Ecologist, Biologist, and Writer

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 hear and see.

**Nature Record:**



**Olbrich Botanical Gardens**  
3330 Atwood Avenue, Madison - 608-246-4550  
Outdoor gardens, daily 8am - 8pm;  
Conservatory daily 10am - 4pm (5pm Sunday)

**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.





Stamp  
here

**Madison Children's Museum**  
100 N. Hamilton St., Madison - 608-256-6445  
9:30am - 5 pm daily (8pm Thursdays)

**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

**Lussier Family Heritage Center**  
3101 Lake Farm Rd, Madison - 608-224-3604  
Open from 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 here.

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

When not at work, lumberjacks were known for playing rough games, telling tall tales, and eating large amounts of food. What tall tales would you tell?

Sketch yourself as a lumberjack here. Timberrr!

**Nature Record:**



**Your Movin' Mission:**  
At the logging exhibit, you can imagine the hard work at a 19th-century Wisconsin lumberyard. Find a heavy stick or rock and do 10 bicep curls on each arm.

**Mackenzie Environmental Education Center**  
W7303 Cey Hwy CS, Poyette - 608-635-8105  
Grounds: dawn to dusk; Building: 8am - 4pm daily

Stamp here



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

Sketch and label each object here. Bring your crayons!

**Nature Record:**



**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).

**Madison Conservation Parks**  
Various locations - 608-266-4711  
Grounds and trails open from dawn to dusk

Stamp here

