



NATURE MERIT BADGE WORKBOOK

This Scoutmaster Bucky Merit Badge Workbook is based off the 2020 Scouts BSA Requirements.

Consider also using the Nature merit badge class preparation page for clarification and expectations when participating in a Scoutmaster Bucky merit badge opportunity (online or in-person).

<https://scoutmasterbucky.com/merit-badges/nature/>

Scout's Name:

REQUIREMENT 1: Name three ways in which plants are important to animals. Name a plant that is protected in your state or region, and explain why it is at risk.

REQUIREMENT 2: Name three ways in which animals are important to plants. Name an animal that is protected in your state or region, and explain why it is at risk.

REQUIREMENT 3: Explain the term "food chain." Give an example of a four-step land food chain and a four-step water food chain.



REQUIREMENT 4: Do all the requirements in FIVE of the following fields:

REQUIREMENT 4A: Birds

REQUIREMENT 4A1: In the field, identify eight species of birds.

REQUIREMENT 4A2: Make and set out a birdhouse OR a feeding station OR a birdbath. List what birds used it during a period of one month.



REQUIREMENT 4B: Mammals

REQUIREMENT 4B1: In the field, identify three species of wild mammals.

REQUIREMENT 4B2: Make plaster casts of the tracks of a wild mammal.

REQUIREMENT 4C: Reptiles and Amphibians



REQUIREMENT 4C1: Show that you can recognize the venomous snakes in your area.

REQUIREMENT 4C2: In the field, identify three species of reptiles or amphibians.

REQUIREMENT 4C3: Recognize one species of toad or frog by voice; OR identify one reptile or amphibian by eggs, den, burrow, or other signs.

REQUIREMENT 4D: Insects and Spiders



REQUIREMENT 4D1: Collect and identify either in the field or through photographs 10 species of insects or spiders.

Photos may be those taken with your own equipment or gathered from other sources.

REQUIREMENT 4D2: Hatch an insect from the pupa or cocoon; OR hatch adults from nymphs; OR keep larvae until they form pupae or cocoons; OR keep a colony of ants or bees through one season.

REQUIREMENT 4E: Fish

REQUIREMENT 4E1: Identify two species of fish native to your area.



REQUIREMENT 4E2: Collect four kinds of animal food eaten by fish in the wild.

REQUIREMENT 4F: Mollusks and Crustateans

REQUIREMENT 4F1: Identify five species of mollusks and crustaceans.

REQUIREMENT 4F2: Collect, mount, and label six shells.



REQUIREMENT 4G: Plants

REQUIREMENT 4G1: In the field, identify 15 species of wild plants.

REQUIREMENT 4G2: Collect and label the seeds of six plants OR the leaves of 12 plants.

REQUIREMENT 4H: Soils and Rocks



REQUIREMENT 4H1: Collect and identify soils found in different layers of a soil profile.

REQUIREMENT 4H2: Collect and identify five different types of rocks from your area.

NOTE: In most cases all specimens should be returned to the wild at the location of the original capture after the requirements have been met. Check with your merit badge counselor for those instances where the return of these specimens would not be appropriate.

Under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, some plants and animals are or may be protected by federal law. The same ones and/or others may be protected by state law. Be sure that you do not collect protected species.

Your state may require that you purchase and carry a license to collect certain species. Check with the wildlife and fish and game officials in your state regarding species regulations before you begin to collect.