



**MIND  
ACTIVITY**

# FRANCIS & FRIENDS

## NATURE SCAVENGER HUNT

written by Jennifer Tinker

### Activity Instructions

Go out to your yard or to a nature park. Write a list of the nature finds or wildlife you might see. For younger children, it's best to keep the list small and manageable (up to 5-10 items) with concrete prompts (ie: a bird, a rock, a tree, etc). Older children can handle longer lists and more complicated prompts (ie: items in five shades of green, a living thing smaller than your thumbnail, something you could build with, etc.). Find the items cooperatively.

Remember: many parks have rules about what you can take off the premises. You don't need to disturb your findings, just show the rest of the group or report it to them and check it off the list.

Younger children may take more time than you'd expect. If one prompt leads to deeper exploration (i.e., looking at insects up close), then save the rest of the list for another outdoor hunt.

Older kids may finish more quickly. Making the hunt cooperative rather than competitive can help keep the focus on the wonder of the finds, and the joy of exploring together. Older children may also enjoy photographing or sketching the finds.

### Discussion Questions

1. What was the hardest thing to find?
2. What else did you notice that was not on the list?
3. What most delighted you about your hunt?
4. How did it feel working cooperatively on the list?
5. What do you think it says about God that nature includes so many different shades, sizes, and types of things?

### *Supply List*

Paper/notebook & pen

Camera or sketch pad & colored pencils (optional)



### *Prayer*

Lord, thank you for the for the world you have created and all that is in it. Your creation is marvelous and your creativity never ends. Help us honor your creation with respect and awe.