



# SCOUTMASTER BUCKY

Scouts participating in a Scoutmaster Bucky merit badge opportunity, whether online or in person, should consider using the Nature merit badge pamphlet for discovery and knowledge, along with the class preparation pages for clarifications, insights, and expectations.

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

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

**IN MOST CASES ALL SPECIMENS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE WILD AT THE LOCATION OF ORIGINAL CAPTURE AFTER THE REQUIREMENTS HAVE BEEN MET. CHECK WITH YOUR 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.**

**REQUIREMENT 1:** Name three ways in which plants are important to animals.

WHY PLANTS ARE IMPORTANT TO ANIMALS REASON #1:

Notes:

WHY PLANTS ARE IMPORTANT TO ANIMALS REASON #2:

Notes:

WHY PLANTS ARE IMPORTANT TO ANIMALS REASON #3:

Notes:



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**REQUIREMENT 1:** Name a plant that is protected in your state or region, and explain why it is at risk.

Protected Plant Name:

Why this plant is at risk:

**REQUIREMENT 2:** Name three ways in which animals are important to plants.

WHY ANIMALS ARE IMPORTANT TO PLANTS REASON #1:

Notes:

WHY ANIMALS ARE IMPORTANT TO PLANTS REASON #2:

Notes:

WHY ANIMALS ARE IMPORTANT TO PLANTS REASON #3:

Notes:



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**REQUIREMENT 2:** Name an animal that is protected in your state or region, and explain why it is at risk.

Protected Animal Name:

Why this animal is at risk:

**REQUIREMENT 3:** Explain the term "food chain."

Notes:

**REQUIREMENT 3:** Give an example of a four-step land food chain and a four-step water food chain.

Notes:



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

**DO FIVE OF THE FOLLOWING (4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E, 4F, 4G, or 4H) FOR REQUIREMENT 4**

**REQUIREMENT 4a: Birds**

**REQUIREMENT 4a1:** In the field, identify eight species of birds.

**BIRD SPECIES #1:**

Name:

Location, Date, and Time spotted:

Description:

Drawing / Sketch:

**BIRD SPECIES #2:**

Name:

Location, Date, and Time spotted:

Description:

Drawing / Sketch:



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BIRD SPECIES #3:	
Name:	
Location, Date, and Time spotted:	
Description:	Drawing / Sketch:
BIRD SPECIES #4:	
Name:	
Location, Date, and Time spotted:	
Description:	Drawing / Sketch:



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BIRD SPECIES #5:	
Name:	
Location, Date, and Time spotted:	
Description:	Drawing / Sketch:
BIRD SPECIES #6:	
Name:	
Location, Date, and Time spotted:	
Description:	Drawing / Sketch:



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**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.

Be sure to bring pictures of you project and with birds using it to share with your counselor

**This requirement must be reviewed with your merit badge counselor.**

**BE PREPARED!**

Date Range Tracked:

List of birds observed:



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<b>REQUIREMENT 4b: Mammals</b>	
<b>REQUIREMENT 4b1:</b> In the field, identify three species of wild mammals.	
WILD MAMMAL SPECIES #1:	
Name:	
Location, Date, and Time spotted:	
Description:	Drawing / Sketch:
WILD MAMMAL SPECIES #2:	
Name:	
Location, Date, and Time spotted:	
Description:	Drawing / Sketch:





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WILD MAMMAL SPECIES #3:	
Name:	
Location, Date, and Time spotted:	
Description:	Drawing / Sketch:

**REQUIREMENT 4b2:** Make plaster casts of the tracks of a wild mammal.

Be sure to bring the plaster casts to share with your counselor  
**This requirement must be reviewed with your merit badge counselor.**  
**BE PREPARED!**





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<b>REQUIREMENT 4c: Reptiles and Amphibians</b>	
<b>REQUIREMENT 4c1:</b> Show that you can recognize the venomous snakes in your area.	
<p><b>This requirement must be reviewed with your merit badge counselor.</b></p> <p><b>BE PREPARED!</b></p>	
<p>Notes:</p>	
<b>REQUIREMENT 4c2:</b> In the field, identify three species of reptiles or amphibians.	
<b>REPTILE OR AMPHIBIAN SPECIES #1:</b>	
Name and whether it is a reptile or amphibian:	
Location, Date, and Time spotted:	
Description:	Drawing / Sketch:



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REPTILE OR AMPHIBIAN SPECIES #2:	
Name and whether it is a reptile or amphibian:	
Location, Date, and Time spotted:	
Description:	Drawing / Sketch:
REPTILE OR AMPHIBIAN SPECIES #3:	
Name and whether it is a reptile or amphibian:	
Location, Date, and Time spotted:	
Description:	Drawing / Sketch:



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**REQUIREMENT 4c3:** Recognize one species of toad or frog by voice; OR identify one reptile or amphibian by eggs, den, burrow, or other signs.

TOAD OR FROG OR REPTILE OR AMPHIBIAN SIGN:

Name and whether it is a reptile or amphibian:

Location, Date, and Time spotted:

Description:

Drawing / Sketch:



**Toad**

**Frog**





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<b>REQUIREMENT 4d: Insects and Spiders</b>	
<b>REQUIREMENT 4d1:</b> Collect and identify either in the field or through photographs 10 species of insects or spiders. Photos may be taken with your own equipment or gathered from other sources.	
Photo #1:	Photo #2:
Photo #3:	Photo #4:
Photo #5:	Photo #6:



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Photo #7:

Photo #8:

Photo #9:

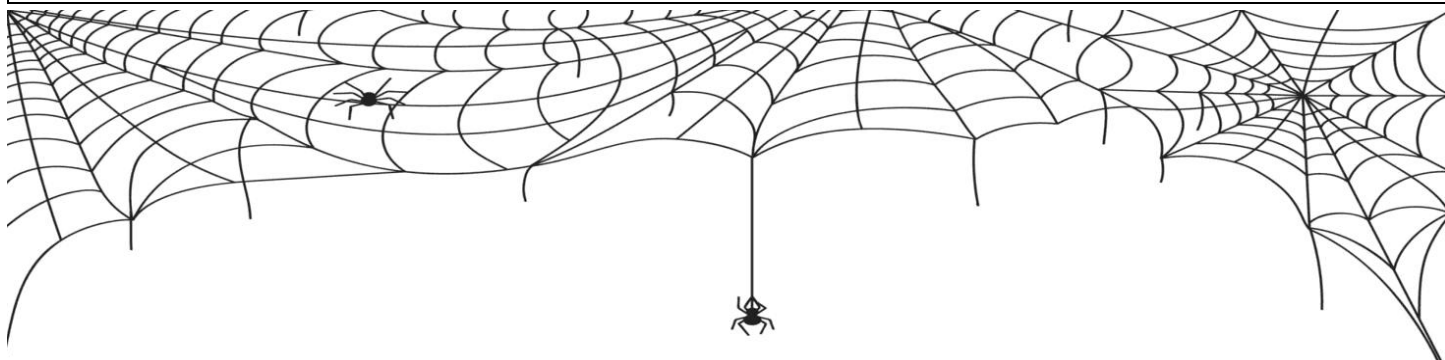
Photo #10:

**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.

Be sure to bring the plaster casts to share with your counselor

**This requirement must be reviewed with your merit badge counselor.**

**BE PREPARED!**





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<b>REQUIREMENT 4e: Fish</b>	
<b>REQUIREMENT 4e1:</b> Identify two species of fish native to your area.	
FISH SPECIES #1:	
Name:	
Description:	Drawing / Sketch:
FISH SPECIES #2:	
Name:	
Description:	Drawing / Sketch:
<b>REQUIREMENT 4e2:</b> Collect four kinds of animal food eaten by fish in the wild.	
<p>Be sure to bring the collected food to share with your counselor</p> <p><b>This requirement must be reviewed with your merit badge counselor.</b></p> <p><b>BE PREPARED!</b></p>	





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<b>REQUIREMENT 4f: Mollusks and Crustaceans</b>	
<b>REQUIREMENT 4f1:</b> Identify five species of mollusks and crustaceans.	
MOLLUSKS / CRUSTACEAN #1:	
Name:	
Description:	Drawing / Sketch:
MOLLUSKS / CRUSTACEAN #2:	
Name:	
Description:	Drawing / Sketch:





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MOLLUSKS / CRUSTACEAN #3:	
Name:	
Description:	Drawing / Sketch:
MOLLUSKS / CRUSTACEAN #4:	
Name:	
Description:	Drawing / Sketch:



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## MOLLUSKS / CRUSTACEAN #5:

Name:

Description:

Drawing / Sketch:

**REQUIREMENT 4f2:** Collect, mount, and label six shells.

Be sure to bring your shell display to share with your counselor  
**This requirement must be reviewed with your merit badge counselor.**  
**BE PREPARED!**





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<b>REQUIREMENT 4g: Plants</b>	
<b>REQUIREMENT 4g1:</b> In the field, identify 15 species of wild plants.	
WILD PLANT SPECIES #1:	
Name:	
Location, Date, and Time spotted:	
Description:	Drawing / Sketch:
WILD PLANT SPECIES #2:	
Name:	
Location, Date, and Time spotted:	
Description:	Drawing / Sketch:



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WILD PLANT SPECIES #3:	
Name:	
Location, Date, and Time spotted:	
Description:	Drawing / Sketch:
WILD PLANT SPECIES #4:	
Name:	
Location, Date, and Time spotted:	
Description:	Drawing / Sketch:



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WILD PLANT SPECIES #5:	
Name:	
Location, Date, and Time spotted:	
Description:	Drawing / Sketch:
WILD PLANT SPECIES #6:	
Name:	
Location, Date, and Time spotted:	
Description:	Drawing / Sketch:



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WILD PLANT SPECIES #7:	
Name:	
Location, Date, and Time spotted:	
Description:	Drawing / Sketch:
WILD PLANT SPECIES #8:	
Name:	
Location, Date, and Time spotted:	
Description:	Drawing / Sketch:



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WILD PLANT SPECIES #9:	
Name:	
Location, Date, and Time spotted:	
Description:	Drawing / Sketch:
WILD PLANT SPECIES #10:	
Name:	
Location, Date, and Time spotted:	
Description:	Drawing / Sketch:



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WILD PLANT SPECIES #11:	
Name:	
Location, Date, and Time spotted:	
Description:	Drawing / Sketch:
WILD PLANT SPECIES #12:	
Name:	
Location, Date, and Time spotted:	
Description:	Drawing / Sketch:





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WILD PLANT SPECIES #13:	
Name:	
Location, Date, and Time spotted:	
Description:	Drawing / Sketch:
WILD PLANT SPECIES #14:	
Name:	
Location, Date, and Time spotted:	
Description:	Drawing / Sketch:



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WILD PLANT SPECIES #15:

Name:

Location, Date, and Time spotted:

Description:

Drawing / Sketch:

**DO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING (4G2A or 4G2B) FOR REQUIREMENT 4G2**

**REQUIREMENT 4g2a:** Collect and label the seeds of six plants OR the leaves of 12 plants.

**REQUIREMENT 4g2b:** Photograph the seeds of six plants OR the leaves of 12 plants and create a catalog of your photos.

Be sure to bring your 4g selected project to share with your counselor  
**This requirement must be reviewed with your merit badge counselor.**

**BE PREPARED!**





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<b>REQUIREMENT 4h:</b>	<b>Soils and Rocks</b>
<b>REQUIREMENT 4h1:</b>	Collect and identify three different types of soil that represent soils high in sand, clay and humus.
<p>Be sure to bring your soil samples to share with your counselor</p> <p><b>This requirement must be reviewed with your merit badge counselor.</b></p> <p><b>BE PREPARED!</b></p>	
<b>REQUIREMENT 4h2:</b>	Collect and identify five different types of rocks from your area.
<b>ROCK #1:</b>	
Name/Type:	
Location and Date collected:	
Notes:	
<b>ROCK #2:</b>	
Name/Type:	
Location and Date collected:	
Notes:	



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ROCK #2:
Name/Type:
Location and Date collected:
Notes:
ROCK #2:
Name/Type:
Location and Date collected:
Notes:
ROCK #2:
Name/Type:
Location and Date collected:
Notes:



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**REQUIREMENT 5:** Discuss the importance of the Leave No Trace Seven Principles and the Outdoor Code and how they relate to nature.

## THE 7 PRINCIPLES of Leave No Trace

1. Plan Ahead & Prepare
2. Travel & Camp on Durable Surfaces
3. Dispose of Waste Properly
4. Leave What You Find
5. Minimize Campfire Impacts
6. Respect Wildlife
7. Be Considerate of Other Visitors

## Outdoor Code

As an American, I will do my best to-  
Be Clean in my outdoor manners,  
Be Careful with fire,  
Be Considerate in the outdoors, and  
Be Conservation-minded

Notes:

**REQUIREMENT 5:** Explain how you have followed the Leave No Trace Seven Principles and the Outdoor Code while in natural areas during field observation, specimen collection, and identification.

Notes:



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**REQUIREMENT 6a:** Explain what succession is to your counselor.

Notes:

**REQUIREMENT 6b:** Visit a natural area (forest, grassland, meadow, water feature) and explain what stage of succession (both plant and animal) the area is in.

Selected Natural Area:

Notes:

**REQUIREMENT 6b:** Talk about what community/succession stages may have been there before and what community/succession stages may replace what you see now.

Notes:

**REQUIREMENT 6b:** Discuss what disturbances or changes have taken place in the past to create this landscape and what changes may occur in the future to change the landscape further.

Notes:



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**DO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING (7A or 7B) FOR REQUIREMENT 7**

**REQUIREMENT 7a:** Identify three career opportunities that would use skills and knowledge in Nature.

Career Opportunity #1:

Career Opportunity #2:

Career Opportunity #3:

**REQUIREMENT 7a:** Pick one and research the training, education, certification requirements, experience, and expenses associated with entering the field.

Selected Career Opportunity:

Training Requirements:

Education Requirements:

Certification Requirements:

Experience Requirements:



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Expenses associated with entering the field:

**REQUIREMENT 7a:** Research the prospects for employment, starting salary, advancement opportunities and career goals associated with this career. Discuss what you learned with your counselor.

Prospects for Employment:

Starting Salary:

Advancement Opportunities:

Career Goals associated with this career:

**REQUIREMENT 7a:** Discuss with your counselor whether you might be interested in this career.

Notes:





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**REQUIREMENT 7b:** Identify how you might use the skills and knowledge in Nature to pursue a personal hobby.

Notes:

**REQUIREMENT 7b:** Research the additional training required, expenses, and affiliation with organizations that would help you maximize the enjoyment and benefit you might gain from it.

Additional Training:

Expenses:

Affiliations/Organizations:

**REQUIREMENT 7b:** Discuss what you learned with your counselor and share what short-term and long-term goals you might have if you pursued this.

Notes: