

# ADK NATURE SCAVENGER HUNT

How many can you find? Check each one off!

1

## A pinecone on the ground

Look under evergreen trees — the bigger the cone, the older the tree!

2

## Something that makes you sneeze

Pollen, dust, or wild grasses — nature's way of spreading seeds!

3

## An animal track in mud or dirt

Press your hand next to it — is it bigger or smaller than yours?

4

## A bird singing but not visible

Birdsong comes from males claiming territory. Can you find the singer?

5

## Something perfectly round

Rocks, berries, spider egg sacs, or even water droplets on a leaf

6

## A hole in a tree

Could be a woodpecker hole, a squirrel nest, or a bat roost!

7

## A spiderweb (don't touch it!)

Spiderwebs are stronger per strand than steel wire of the same thickness

8

## Moss growing on a rock or log

Moss loves shade and moisture — it can survive being completely dried out

9

## Two different colored rocks

Minerals in rocks create different colors — can you guess their names?

10

## A feather on the ground

What bird might it be from? Notice the shape, size, and pattern

11

## Something that smells amazing

Pine needles, wildflowers, fresh dirt after rain (that's called petrichor!)

12

## Tracks left by water

Erosion lines, water-smoothed rocks, or a dried stream bed

13

## An acorn or other tree nut

Squirrels and chipmunks bury thousands of these every fall as winter food

14

## A leaf with something eating it

Insect bites, galls, or leaf miners — tiny creatures living inside leaves!

15

## Animal scat (poop — don't touch!)

Scat tells scientists what animals eat. Always mark it with a nearby stick

16

## A view with no buildings visible

You are looking at true wilderness — take a photo to remember this view

My Score: \_\_\_\_\_ / 16 items found!

Explorer: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# ADK WATER SCAVENGER HUNT

Explore any ADK lake, pond, river, or stream!

1

## A water insect walking on the surface

Water striders use surface tension — the water acts like a thin skin

9

## A dragonfly or damselfly

Dragonflies can fly backward, hover, and reach 30 mph — tiny helicopters!

2

## Ripples on the water

What caused them? Wind, a fish, a drop of rain, or your own hand?

10

## A painted or snapping turtle

Turtles warm up by basking in the sun on logs. Approach slowly and quietly

3

## A rock covered in slippery algae

Algae is one of the world's oldest living things — it has been here 2 billion years!

11

## Cattails growing in the water

Native Americans used every part of the cattail plant for food and building

4

## A frog or toad

Frogs love water; toads prefer land. Toads have bumpier, drier skin

12

## Fish in the water

Stay still and watch. Fish are most visible when the sun is not directly overhead

5

## A bird fishing or hunting near water

Herons stand perfectly still for minutes before striking with lightning speed

13

## Beaver-chewed stumps near water

Beavers can chew through a small tree in under 15 minutes!

6

## Something floating downstream

Natural objects like leaves, twigs, and pollen travel huge distances by water

14

## Waterfall or fast-moving water

Fast water oxygenates — that's why fish love rapids and waterfalls

7

## Water that sounds different

Running over rocks sounds different from still water — describe the sound!

15

## A loon (or hear a loon call)

Loons can dive over 200 feet underwater and hold their breath for 3 minutes

8

## The reflection of something in water

Can you photograph a perfect reflection? Best on a calm, windless morning

16

## Pebbles worn smooth by the water

It takes thousands of years of tumbling in water to smooth a rough rock

My Score: \_\_\_\_\_ / 16 items found!

Explorer: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_