

Anderson Parks Backyard Nature Packet



Anderson
Park District

This workbook belongs to:



Anderson Park District

Dear Anderson Park Fans,

We invite you to explore our backyard and participate in the Family Outdoor Adventure Backyard Nature Packet. The goal of this workbook is to encourage children and families to get outside together and explore your Anderson Parks. In this packet you will find a variety of activities appropriate for ages 4-8 years old. The activities are designed to engage your child in learning about nature in our local parks while having fun, using your imagination and being active.

We hope you can explore as a family, especially since younger children may need assistance completing some of the activities. A map of all the Anderson Parks is included; we encourage you to visit a park that is new to you. If you are not able to visit our parks, many of these activities can also be completed at home in your own backyard. Don't forget to document your adventure through pictures and share them with us on social media, @AndersonParkDistrict.

Your Friends at the Anderson Park District



Outdoor Adventure

Have fun with this word search! Find these words in the puzzle.

ACORN

CLOUDS

EXPLORE

LEAVES

NATURE

POND

RAIN

ROCK

SMORES

SQUIRREL

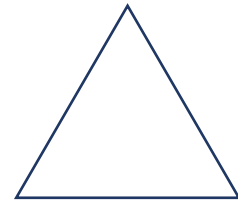
SUNSHINE

TURTLE

C S K M D E Z S P D Y C A O J
O L M Y L Y N O E Y J L C F X
C P O T X P N I A V Y S O S W
N Y R U Q D S G A C A J R E H
R U O U D K C O R R S E N R V
T X S A A S N A T U R E L O O
F S O S C C M M N L H H Y M P
J Q Z J V K K S D P N D P S F
Q U E T H Z H L I X O V C X U
T I L P U I Y X R L H D K F H
F R W W N O C R N L C Y B D E
G R R E A X G O A Z B H N X K
W E E C Q J L V Z Z Y W N R F
D L S Z S E R O L P X E S X E
G W I K I T A P W V S W L D T

Shapes in Nature

Draw a line to match the photo to the shape. Some photos may match more than one shape. Use your imagination; nature shapes are not perfect.



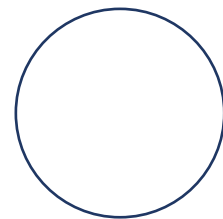
Triangle



Square



Rectangle



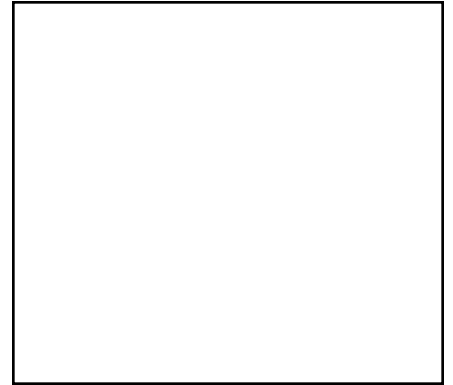
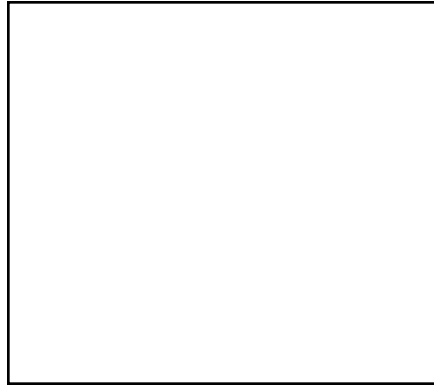
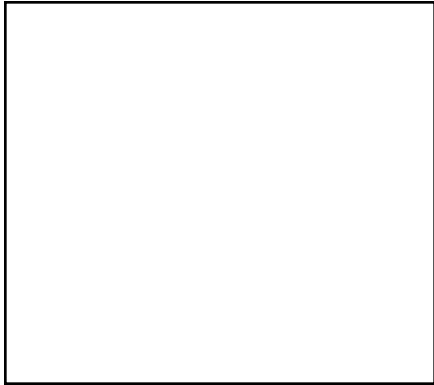
Circle



Heart

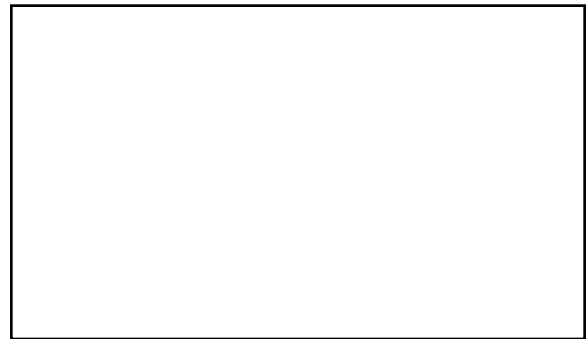
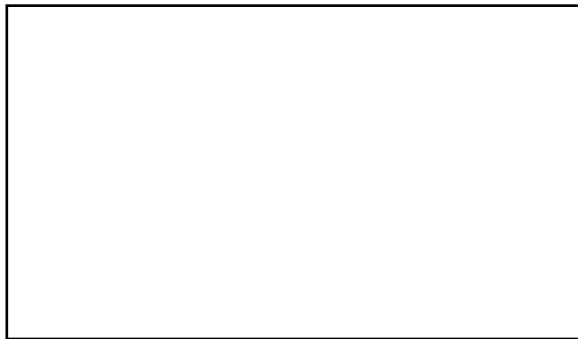
Shapes in Nature (cont.)

Draw and write about some of the other shapes that you see outdoors.



Shapes in Clouds

Lie down on the ground and look up at the clouds. What shapes do you see in the clouds? Do you see any animal shapes? Draw and write about what you see.



Nature Scavenger Hunt

Look around and observe the nature that's all around you.
Can you find all of these items?



butterfly



cloud



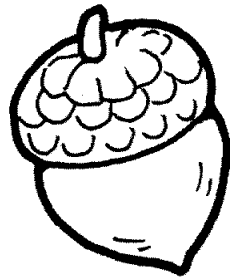
pinecone



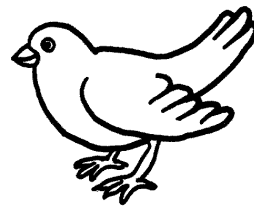
ladybug



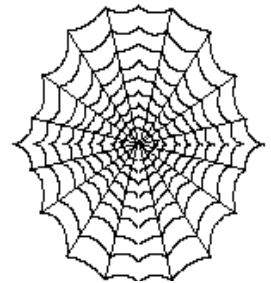
leaf



acorn



bird



spiderweb



flower



bunny



grasshopper



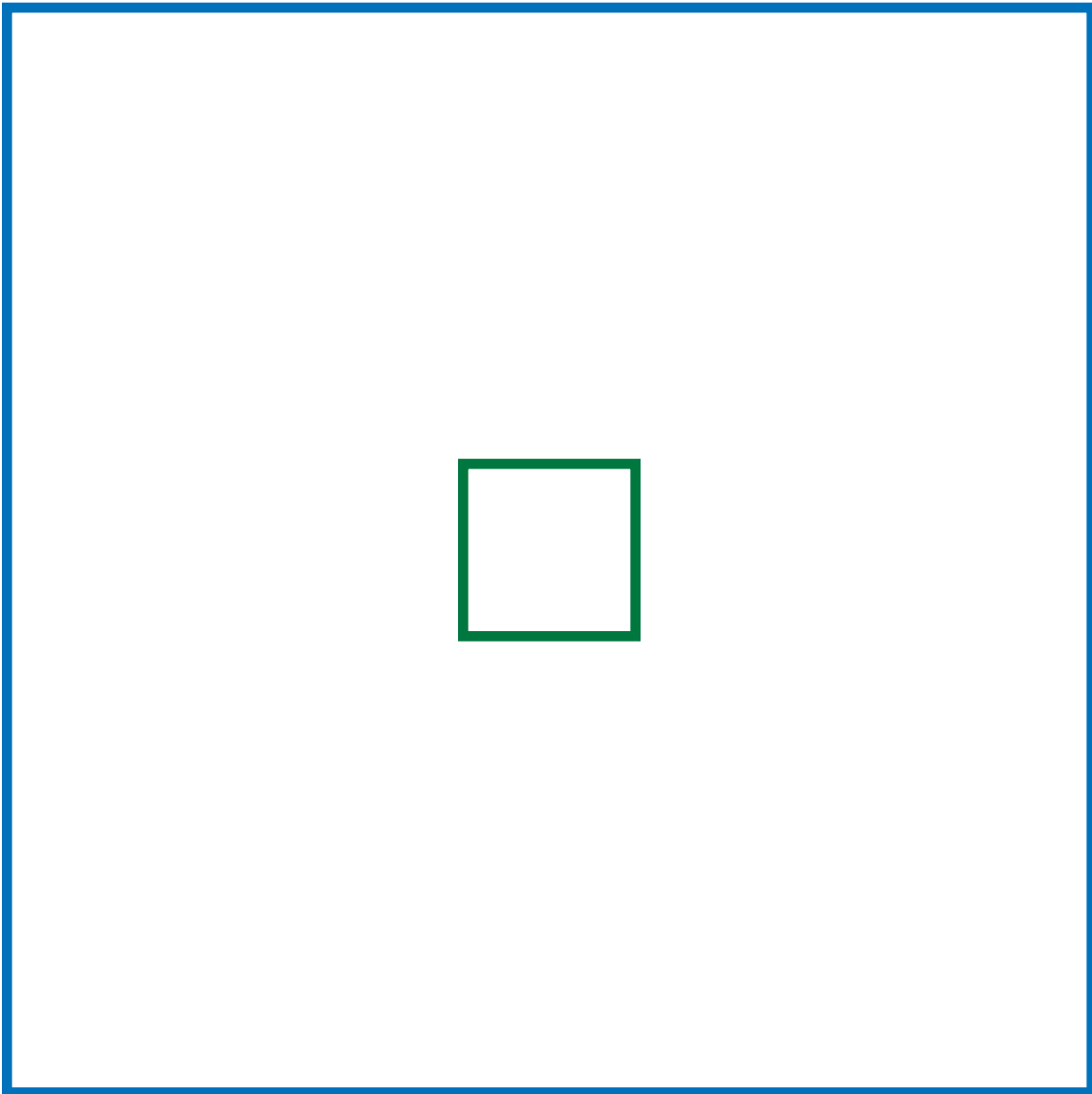
squirrel

Nature By The Inch

Cut out the 1"x1" square or the 6"x6" square. Younger children may find the larger square easier to use. Gather a magnifying glass and head outdoors.

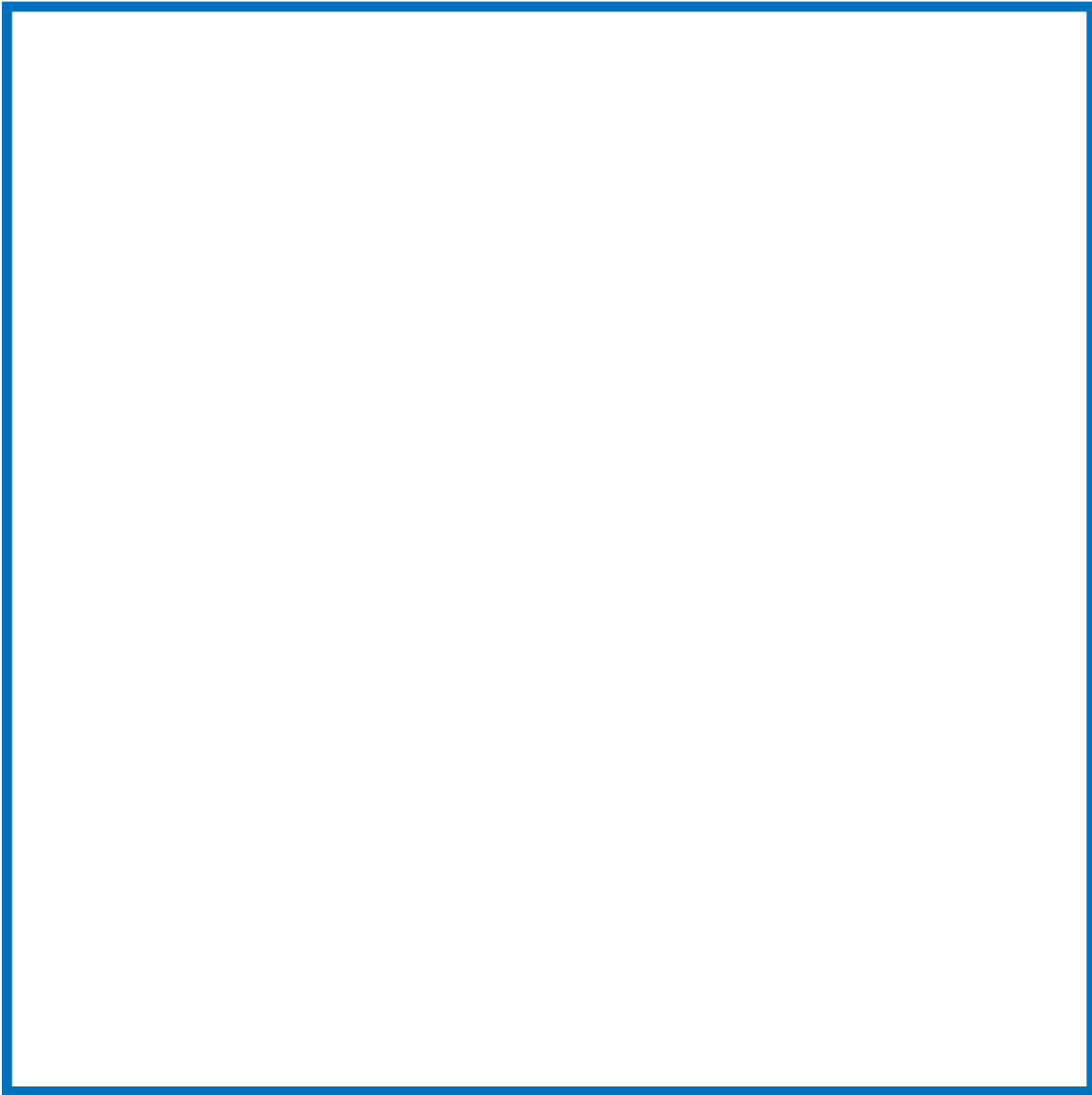
Lay the open square on the ground. Gently move either the soil or the grass around. Observe what you see in the small area. Remember not to harm or remove anything you see. What do you think might live there? Or grow there? Do you see ants or other insects? What plants do you see? Are you surprised to find so many things? Draw what you saw in the journal on the next page.

Try moving the square to different locations, maybe a muddy area if you were in the grass before. What do you see? Draw what you find and compare them to your first drawings. Use field guides or the internet to help identify what you have found. Have fun!



Nature By The Inch Journal

Use this page to draw and write what you observed using the 6x6 inch square you cut out.



Nature By The Inch Journal

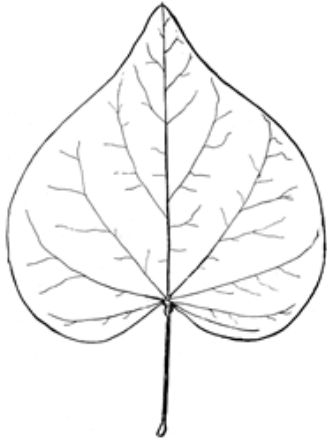
Use this page to draw and write what you observed using the 1x1 inch square you cut out.



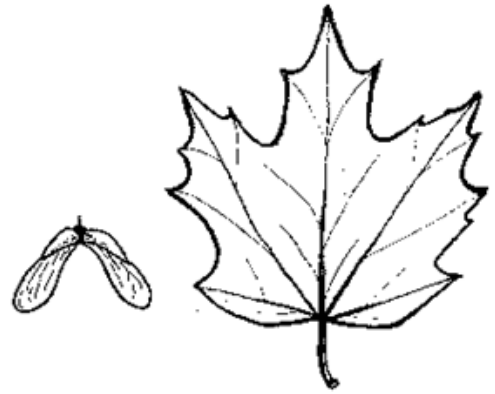
I was surprised to find _____

Leaf Shapes

Shapes of tree leaves can help you identify the tree. Below are some tree leaves in our area and their common names. If you find a tree that matches one of these leaves, color the leaf. Try to find all of them in your backyard and your favorite Anderson Parks.



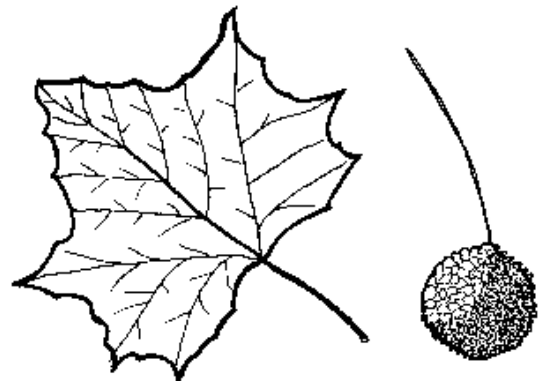
Eastern Redbud



Sugar Maple



Sweetgum



Sycamore



Tulip Poplar

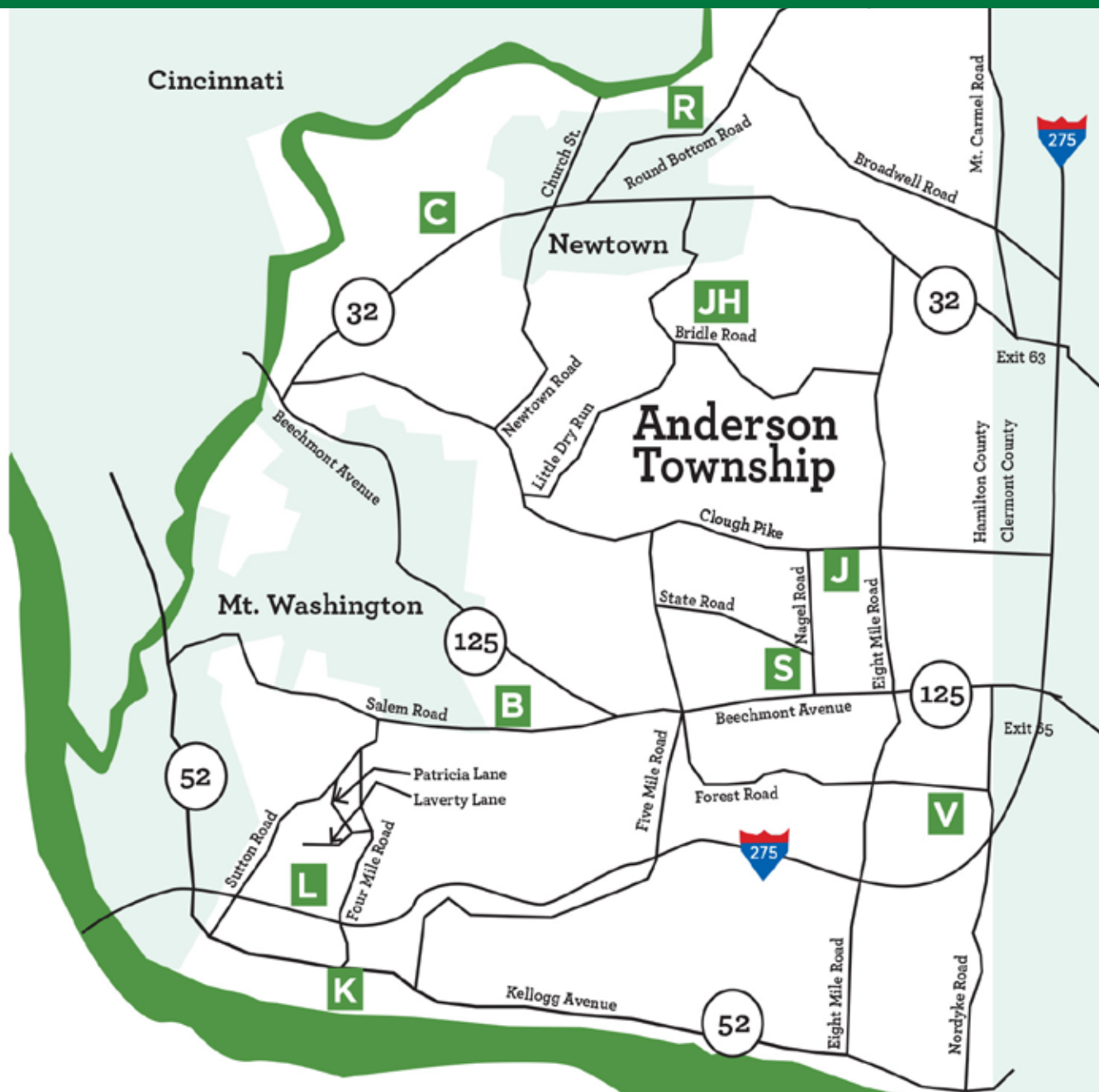


Pawpaw

Nature Journal

Draw and write about your favorite part of this Family Outdoor Adventure.





504 acres of parkland for everyone's enjoyment. Visit a park near you!

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>B Beech Acres Park
6910 Salem Road
Anderson Parks RecPlex
6915 Beechmont Ave.</p> <p>C Clear Creek Park
6200 Batavia Road (S.R. 32)</p> <p>JH W.M. Johnson Hills Park
7950 Bridle Road</p> <p>J Juilfs Park
8249 Clough Pike
Juilfs Park (south parking lot)
8200 Patton Ave.</p> | <p>K Kellogg Park and Dog Field
6701 Kellogg Ave.</p> <p>L Laverty Park
839 Laverty Lane</p> <p>R Riverside Park
3969 Round Bottom Road</p> <p>S State & Nagel Park
8031 State Road</p> <p>V Veterans Park
8531 Forest Road</p> |
|--|---|