



Experience the World of Your Favorite Book Characters Create a Nature Journal for Them

- ❖ **Gather:** a notebook and a pen or pencil, and, if you'd like, colored pencils or markers.
- ❖ **Pick A Book where the Outdoors plays an Important Part.** Look for a book where a lot of the scenes are set outdoors. Books such as *Hatchet*, *Island of the Blue Dolphins*, *My Side of the Mountain* and *Smack Dab in the Middle of Maybe* are great choices.
- ❖ **Find** a relaxing spot to read.
- ❖ **Start Exploring-**
 - As you read, make a notes and drawings in your journal about the natural world of the main character.
 - What season is it?
 - What is the weather like?
 - What plants does your character encounter?
 - What animals are active during the day in that area?
 - What animals are active during the night in that area?
 - Write down or draw what your character sees, hears, touches, smells and tastes as they explore their world.
 - If you're not sure, do some research about the natural world of your character.
 - If your area is similar to that of the main character, you can make leaf rubbings and press flowers and leaves in your nature journal.
 - Record how the natural world of your character changes over the course of the book. Write down in your journal what your character sees, hears, touches, smells, and tastes each day.
- ❖ **Use** your nature journal to record the things in your character's natural environment that interest you.
- ❖ **Research** at least one fun fact about each natural element that interests you and write it in your journal
- ❖ **Imagine.** If you were the main character, what would you do differently? What resources would you use in nature to help you stay safe and healthy?
- ❖ **Share** your work with others.