

Red-tail Kids Club

RED-TAIL LAND CONSERVANCY, INC.



Hi, I'm Reddy Red-tail!

I am lucky because I get to spend most of my days soaring high in the sky. Sometimes I sit perched on a tree watching over the land where I live, and sometimes I fly low over the fields looking for food to eat.

Sadly most creatures like you get to spend very little time out in nature. This is sad indeed because nature needs you, and you need nature.

I want you to get outside and explore nature. The best way to learn about my friends and the world I live in is to be curious.

That means getting dirty, smelling things, touching things, and asking questions. I have some ideas that might help you to have fun adventures outdoors.

See you outside!



Why do bees visit flowers?
Why does it get so hot?
Where do bats go during the day?
How do birds know to sing different songs?

What is happening outside now that it's Summer? You may already be seeing signs of summer, like butterflies visiting flowers and birds singing. Why do they do these things?

Butterflies and other insects spend a lot of time hanging out on flowers and plants. They use plants for food and shelter, which might seem bad for the plants, but plants need insects. Butterflies and bees help spread pollen, which plants use to make more flowers. Lady bugs actually eat the harmful insects called aphids, that can eat too much of certain plants. Without insects plants would not be able to make some of our favorite foods, like apples and raspberries.

Birds also use plants for food and shelter. You might see birds sitting in a tree singing a song. Each bird species you see outside sings a different song. The different songs tell the other birds in the area who they are and what they are doing. Baby birds learn which songs to sing as they grow up, just like we learn to talk from our parents. Birds from different areas might even have different accents, similar to how people from different countries or states do.

Next time you're outside this Summer listen for different bird songs. Can you spot which birds are singing?

Reddy's Nature Journal

Summer is a great time to go outside and see wildlife. Find a cool place to sit outside, like a pond, field, or tree, and see how many animals and insects you can spot. **Draw pictures in your journal of each creature you spot.**

My friends at Red-tail Land Conservancy protect many wild places where you can explore nature. They also have free nature journals you can take with you. Ask your parents to call the office and pick one up.

I hope to spy you out exploring nature soon.



🔍 Let's Explore

Hawks have very good eyes. This helps us spot food when we are flying high above the ground.

Try to spy these things as you explore the outdoors:

- A butterfly on a flower
- Fuzzy green moss
- Colorful flowers
- A bird singing in a tree
- Two leaves with different shapes
- A turtle or frog in a pond

What else can you find?

❤️ Caring for Nature

You can help take care of the land and my friends.

Help butterflies and other insects pollinate plants by planting plants like black-eyed susans, butterfly weed, sunflowers, and milkweed. You can also make a nectar out of mashed fruit and sugar in a shallow bowl. Place the bowl outside in the sun and butterflies will stop by for a snack as they fly from flower to flower.

How else can you help?

😊 Just for Fun

There are lots of fun things to do outside in Summer.

- Make nature art using sticks, rocks, and other nature items
- Walk barefoot in the grass
- Dance like a butterfly
- Look at the stars and lightning bugs at night
- Hunt for worms in the dirt
- Plant a flower that will provide food for insects and birds

What is your favorite outdoor activity?



See ya' in the woods.

Visit www.fortheland.org to learn more about my friends at Red-tail Land Conservancy and how you can support their work to preserve natural places. You can find properties to visit, learn about upcoming events, and get involved in helping to protect nature.