

Big 5 Spotter

Lesson 7.2 · The Big 5
Outdoor Mission



Kitimu says...

Africa has its Big 5 — but what about YOUR area? Every neighbourhood has amazing animals! Choose the 5 most impressive creatures near you and make them famous with fact cards. Think like a wildlife photographer on safari. Let's go, Cub!



WHAT YOU NEED



Garden, park or street



5 cards or paper



Coloured pencils



Camera (optional)



Your worksheet



Scissors & glue



YOUR MISSION

- Scout your area.** Spend 15 minutes exploring your garden, street or park. Look everywhere — in trees, on the ground, near water, under bushes. Note every animal you see or find evidence of (tracks, sounds, nests, burrows).
- Pick your Big 5.** Choose the 5 most impressive from your list. They needn't be big — a spider that builds incredible webs or a gecko that climbs walls is just as awesome as a hawk. What makes each one special?
- Create fact cards.** Make a card for each. Draw or stick a photo on one side. On the back write: its name, where you found it, one amazing fact, and whether it's a **mammal, bird, reptile or insect**.
- Give a Wow Score.** Rate each animal out of 10. How rare is it? How interesting is its behaviour? How important is it to the ecosystem? Your highest score becomes your Number 1!
- Display your collection.** Line up your cards from 1 to 5 — your very own Backyard Big 5! Compare with a friend: are any of your Big 5 the same?

RANGER TIP

Real rangers keep a list of every animal they see. Your Backyard Big 5 is the start of your own wildlife record — keep adding to it!

CHALLENGE

Can you find at least 2 mammals for your Big 5? Cats, dogs, rats, squirrels, bats and mongooses all count!

My Backyard Big 5 (rank them 1-5):



Photograph your Backyard Big 5 fact cards and share them in the Junior Rangers WhatsApp group!