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Attitudes

Skills

Knowledge: Our Living Planet

A BioBlitz is an event in which teams of volunteer scientists, families, students, teachers, and community members come together to find and identify as many species of plants, animals, fungi, and other visible organisms as possible. They learn about the planet by exploring life in their own community.

Curious: A kid explorer is curious about the environment in their community and the living organisms they share it with.

Responsible: A kid explorer becomes engaged with their community's geography and ecology and learns about the importance of biodiversity.

Empowered: A kid explorer is an adventurer, studying biodiversity firsthand by making observations, recording data, understanding classifications, and mapping their findings.

Observation: A kid explorer collects and records information about living organisms in their own community.

Communication: A kid explorer records their observations on iNaturalist.org to share their finding with other explorers.

Collaboration: A kid explorer works with other community members, such as volunteer scientists, families, and teachers, to create an inventory of living organisms in their community.

Problem Solving: A kid explorer helps their community gain understanding and awareness about the other living things that they share their environment with.

“Revealing, celebrating, and helping protect the amazing and diverse creatures we share our world with” is the focus point of a BioBlitz. The GAI plans to coordinate BioBlitzes across Iowa in 2016 to get students involved with their surrounding environment and the living organisms they share it with.

The GAI's goal is to have at least 10 BioBlitzes across Iowa so that every Iowa school is no more than 50 miles away from a BioBlitz site. Connections will be formed among educators, naturalists, and community members with at least 200 Iowa students who will study plants, animals, fungi, and other visible organisms.



Adapted from NGS; created by Mollie Ullestad, GAI Undergraduate Research Assistant

