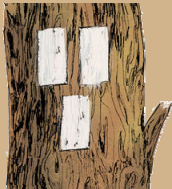




### Trail Blazes



Trail Start



Straight



Right Turn



Left Turn



Trail intersection



Trail Ends

# Safari Nature Hike & Scavenger Hunt

**Welcome, young explorers,** to your Safari Nature Hike at John Sherman Hoyt Scout Reservation. A magical place spread across 170 acres of beautiful forest and fields in West Redding. As we wander the trails, we'll encounter all sorts of wild animals, and discover trees and plants that call this place home.

To make our adventure even more exciting, we've prepared this special **Nature Guide and a Scavenger Hunt**. As true safari explorers, remember to walk softly and stay quiet so we don't scare away the animals. And let's be kind to other hikers who share our path.

### Safari Safety Tips

Before we set off, here are a few important safety tips:

- **Watch out for Poison Ivy, Oak, and Sumac!** In the fall, these tricky plants can be hard to spot. Avoid touching any vines growing up trees—better safe than itchy!
- **Be tick smart.** Ticks might still be around, so don't forget to use insect repellent.
- **Beware of Yellow Jackets.** These wasps can build nests in the ground and might still be active, so keep an eye out!

### Where the Wild Things Are

As we explore, keep an eye out for signs of animals and their homes:

- **Squirrels** live high up in trees and love to hide nuts, which helps new trees grow.
- **Chipmunks** burrow in rock walls.
- **Cottontail Rabbits** hide in brushy areas and overgrown fields.
- **Deer** are often spotted in the early morning or at dusk.
- **Raccoons** den in tree hollows, and rock crevices. Remember, if you see one during the day, stay clear—it could be sick.
- **Mice** build cozy nests in hidden spots like tree cavities and old bird nests.

### Leaf Collecting Safari

Fall is the perfect time to collect colorful leaves and learn about the trees they come from. On your Scavenger Hunt, you'll find some common trees, but see how many different leaves you can collect. Bring them back to your Safari station to identify and admire!

### Insect Safari

As it gets colder, most insects hide away for winter. But some, like Yellow Jackets, Wasps, Lady Bugs, Snow Flies, and Stone Flies, might still be active on warmer days. Keep your eyes open for these tiny critters!

### Bird Safari





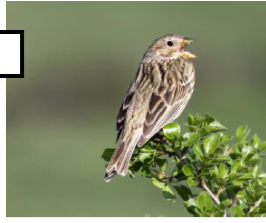


















Not all birds fly south for the winter! Many stay active at Hoyt. Look out for the Song Sparrow and noisy Blue Jays. With fewer leaves on the trees, spotting birds is easier, and you might see some hiding in dense ever-greens.

**Enjoy your safari at Hoyt!** Be sure to take pictures or make sketches of all the amazing things you see. Happy exploring!

# Hoyt Nature Scavenger Hunt

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Pack \_\_\_\_\_

Try to find as many of the items below on your walk or hike.

BIRDS	TREES	ON THE TRAIL	ANIMALS/INSECT
<input type="checkbox"/>  American Robin	<input type="checkbox"/>  <b>Maple</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>  <b>Tree Stump</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>  <b>Squirrel</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>  Song Sparrow	<input type="checkbox"/>  <b>Oak</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>  <b>Pinecone</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>  <b>Deer</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>  American Crow	<input type="checkbox"/>  <b>Beach</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>  <b>Stonewall</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>  <b>Chipmunk</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>  Blue Jay	<input type="checkbox"/>  <b>Elm</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>  <b>Animal Tracks</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>  <b>Mouse</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>  Tufted Titmouse	<input type="checkbox"/>  <b>Maple</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>  <b>Squirrel or Birds Nest</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>  <b>Rabbit</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> List Other Birds You Saw: _____ _____ _____	<input type="checkbox"/>  <b>Tulip</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>  <b>Hole in a Tree</b> (animals may live in)	<input type="checkbox"/>  <b>Insect</b>