



## Creative Nature Play Programs

Creative Nature Play is Dave Bauer's vision of encouraging children to be outdoors and fall in love with nature while learning about it. This vision is a type of nature mentoring that uses children's innate curiosity to have them be the leaders of the learning - which leads to a better learning experience for everyone. You can learn more at <http://creativenatureplay.com>.

Here are a few programs that Dave has designed to help children learn about nature in fun and creative ways.

(These programs are typically designed for children in the age group ranging from 3 to 10. Activities tend to run from 45 minutes to an hour.)

**NOTE: If a series is possible, we would prefer to start with the *What's Under That Rock, Papa?* program, as this serves as an introduction to the creative nature play way of being in nature.**

### ***What's Under That Rock, Papa?***

Interactive reading of Dave Bauer's book. Includes activities in backyard nature including composting, uncovering the insects hideouts and sampling some of Dave's dried worm collection!

### ***Creative Nature Play & Mindfulness***

This workshop is an opportunity for children to discover their native curiosity in being in everyday nature settings. Each backyard, neighborhood park and green space offers unique ways to reconnect with own natural world. Children will have several excursions into the realm of being mindful in their time spent in nature exploring. In the second half of this novel workshop, children will create their very own a mini book capturing their experiences and insights during the workshop. Children 3 - 10 years old. Time needed varies from 90 minutes to 2.5 hours. (NOTE: Fee varies based on program desired)

### **Discover Your “Nature Lens”**

Practice observing the natural world around you (SIT SPOT) and discover the life of everyday nature! Find a place to sit and listen to the birds and other creatures. Talk about how and why they react to the world around them, and find joy in your nature discoveries.

### **Council of All Beings**

Become a part of nature and represent something on Earth for the important council of all beings! Share what persona you’ve chosen to be for the group and what your role and existence on Earth means. (Can be ANYTHING - a cloud, rain, an animal, pollution, fire, a tree, etc...)

### **Critter Catch**

Look for bugs and worms in strange places! Includes flipping logs, leaves, and rocks to find all the best hiding places.

### **Dirty Digging or The Living Soil**

Build your own compost bin! Learn how to make them, why they are important, and where soil even comes from! Get your hands dirty and feel the wiggle of the worms in live compost.

### **Hideout for Trolls**

Create your own troll hideout! Gather all the miniature “nature loose parts” you can find to create a mini home and village for the local trolls! Recommended to work in teams or pairs.

### **Hungry Bird**

Make your very own pinecone birdfeeder!

### **Jungle Book**

Search for animals and insects, their tracks, or any evidence of their traveling and tell a story about their journey!

### **Scavenger Hunt**

Work in groups to discover all the cool things you can find in nature. Afterwards we bring them all together to share what you’ve found. All items are returned to their nature setting.

## **Water Wonders**

Learn about the water cycle! Draw a nature image with water and a foam brush on a hot day. What happens? If it's early in the morning, go for a walk with your bare feet and learn about the dew.

**Fees for above program:** The fee for each of the above programs is \$200

\*\*\*NOTE: For groups seeking a unique guided experience or activity, please contact me at [davebauer@whatsunderthatrockpapa.com](mailto:davebauer@whatsunderthatrockpapa.com) to design your experience and discuss program costs.

### **Dave Bauer**

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