

Visit Couturie Forest in City Park for a Science Adventure Today!

New Orleans City Park has created a ½ mile trail in Couturie Forest with 12 marked trees that we are collecting scientific information on. Learners of all ages are welcome to participate by collecting and submitting data through the Nature's Notebook program! No previous experience is necessary!



You can be a Citizen Scientist!

A Citizen Scientist is someone who volunteers to collect data for other scientists to use. You can be a scientist just by writing down some things you see in the Forest.

Kids Wanted!

Complete these “warm up” activity pages to practice your observation skills and then you’ll be ready to start making observations on our Nature’s Notebook trail.

STEP 1

Visit Couturie Forest and talk about the following questions with the people you are with:

1. Which of these are our 5 senses?

- | | |
|------------|---------------|
| a. Sight | e. Laughter |
| b. Hearing | f. Taste |
| c. Walking | g. Touch |
| d. Smell | h. Excitement |

2. How do you make an observation?



- Observations can only be made using your eyes to see something.
- Observations are made by taking a walk and not paying attention to what is around you.
- Observations can be made using any of your 5 senses to gain information.

3. How do observations help in science?
 - a. Observations help us understand how things work.
 - b. Observations help us explore new things.
 - c. Observations give us information so we can make decisions.
 - d. All of the above.



4. Phenology is the study of how plants and animals change through the seasons!
 - a. Can you think of a way that a plant might change from winter to spring?
 - b. Can you think of a way that a bird might change from fall to winter?



STEP 2

Find the start of the Nature's Notebook trail at the end of the Couturie Forest bridge and make some observations about a few of the trees by answering the following questions.

What is the date? _____ What is the time? _____

Find the **Bald Cypress tree** at the start of the trail.

Answer these questions by circling “y” for yes, “n” for no and “?” if you do not know:

Species: Taxodium distichum
 Common Name: bald cypress
 Nickname: bald cypress-1

Do you see...?	Check when data entered online: <input type="checkbox"/>
Breaking needle buds	y n ? ____
Needles	y n ? ____



Find the **American Beautyberry**. Answer these questions by circling “y” for yes, “n” for no and “?” if you do not know:

Species: Callicarpa americana
 Common Name: American beautyberry
 Nickname: American beautyberry-1

Do you see...?	Check when data entered online: <input type="checkbox"/>
Flowers or flower buds	y n ? ____
Open flowers	y n ? ____



Find the **Sweetgum tree**. Answer these questions by circling “y” for yes, “n” for no and “?” if you do not know:

Species: Liquidambar styraciflua
 Common Name: sweetgum
 Nickname: sweetgum-1

Do you see...?	Check when data entered online: <input type="checkbox"/>
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Fruits	y n ? ____
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Ripe fruits	y n ? ____
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