

# Into the Field

Environmental Education

Distance Learning Resources

Issue 7: Online and Interactive Materials



As the school year winds down, we are focusing on resources that you can easily work into your lessons. Several of these online learning tools have multiple parts or can be extended into series, but for the most part, they are clearly defined activities to use with students.

*We've grouped activities by age, but in general these are suggested guidelines. Many of the activities could be easily adjusted to work with a different age-group, so double-check before you skip a section!*

## ALL AGES OR FAMILY ACTIVITIES

### [Jeffers at Home Vimeo Channel](#)

The Jeffers Foundation has created a series of short videos called At Home with Mother Nature. The videos focus on a variety of topics, using clearly delivered information to encourage exploration.

### [Galaxy Zoo](#)

This revamped citizen-science project is truly fascinating. Whether in a class or as a family, help researchers to classify galaxies using the newest images taken by some of the most advanced telescopes and surveys created to date. While the goal is for a couple of people to see each image, you could be one of the first people to see an image of any given galaxy!

## EARLY LEARNERS

### [Cornell FeederWatch Cam](#)

Young students can observe wildlife from indoors using this live feed or selected video highlights. Below the video, there are images of different bird species that students might see on the feeders. These images can be used to encourage an "I spy" observation game or conversation.

### [SciShow Kids](#)

This is a Youtube channel that has a livestream running in addition to curated videos on specific topics. Videos are animated and geared toward young children, but have content that would also suit older elementary students.



## GRADES 3-5

### [Journey North: Monarch Butterflies](#)

One of the [many projects](#) that the University of Wisconsin-Madison in partnership with Journey North offers is tracking monarch butterfly sightings. Students create an account on the website to be able to track and map sightings of monarchs throughout their migration. Follow along with the website's blog posts to see where the monarchs are and watch citizen-science in action.

### [Big River Journey](#)

The Big River Journey is not only online, but truly interactive. Set up for students to independently journey through different stages of exploration, the journey includes quality videos, readings, word searches, quizzes and more. Thanks to the National Park Service, Mississippi National River and Recreational Area for this creative exploration.

## GRADES 6-8

### [Geology](#)

Wolf Ridge has created several online learning opportunities that can be used by educators or families. In this lesson, participants will: learn about the rock cycle and see how geologic forces shaped the land around the Lake Superior basin; using a bedrock map, describe how differential erosion shaped today's Wolf Ridge landscape; create a rock cycle model. Participants will also learn about how to add observations about the rocks to a nature journal.

### [SDSS Voyages](#)

On this [website](#) you will find activities and research experiences for students, built on data from the Sloan Digital Sky Survey. SDSS Voyages provides free educational astronomy activities, which are appropriate for students across a wide range of ages and abilities. The entire site is designed to give educators flexibility when organizing learning experiences for their students. Activities are scaffolded so that students can also progress at their own pace from simple conceptual activities to advanced discovery-based projects. Higher level students can use Voyages activities to build the basic knowledge and skills required to initiate their own novel explorations of the millions of stars and galaxies in the SDSS database. Voyages strives to put students at the helm of their explorations with support from you, the educator."

## HIGH SCHOOL

### [Virtual Escape The Rooms!](#)

Nuhop's [Outdoor Education website](#) offers 40 different lessons for at-home outdoor education. These classes are on a wide-range of topics and can be woven into lessons of your own. The website has created virtual escape-the-rooms for students to use; these "rooms" bring thematic elements from other classes on the website blending review into a fun and challenging format.

### [Minnesota Stories: Changing Climate](#)

Climate Generation and Twin Cities PBS teamed up to create six stories about the changing climate in Minnesota. The stories were aired as a part of a documentary series, clips of which can be accessed through this link. In addition, teachers can download a discussion guide to accompany the stories and guide learning.



You can reach us with your comments and questions at [admin@auduboncharterschools.org](mailto:admin@auduboncharterschools.org)  
[auduboncharterschools.org](http://auduboncharterschools.org)