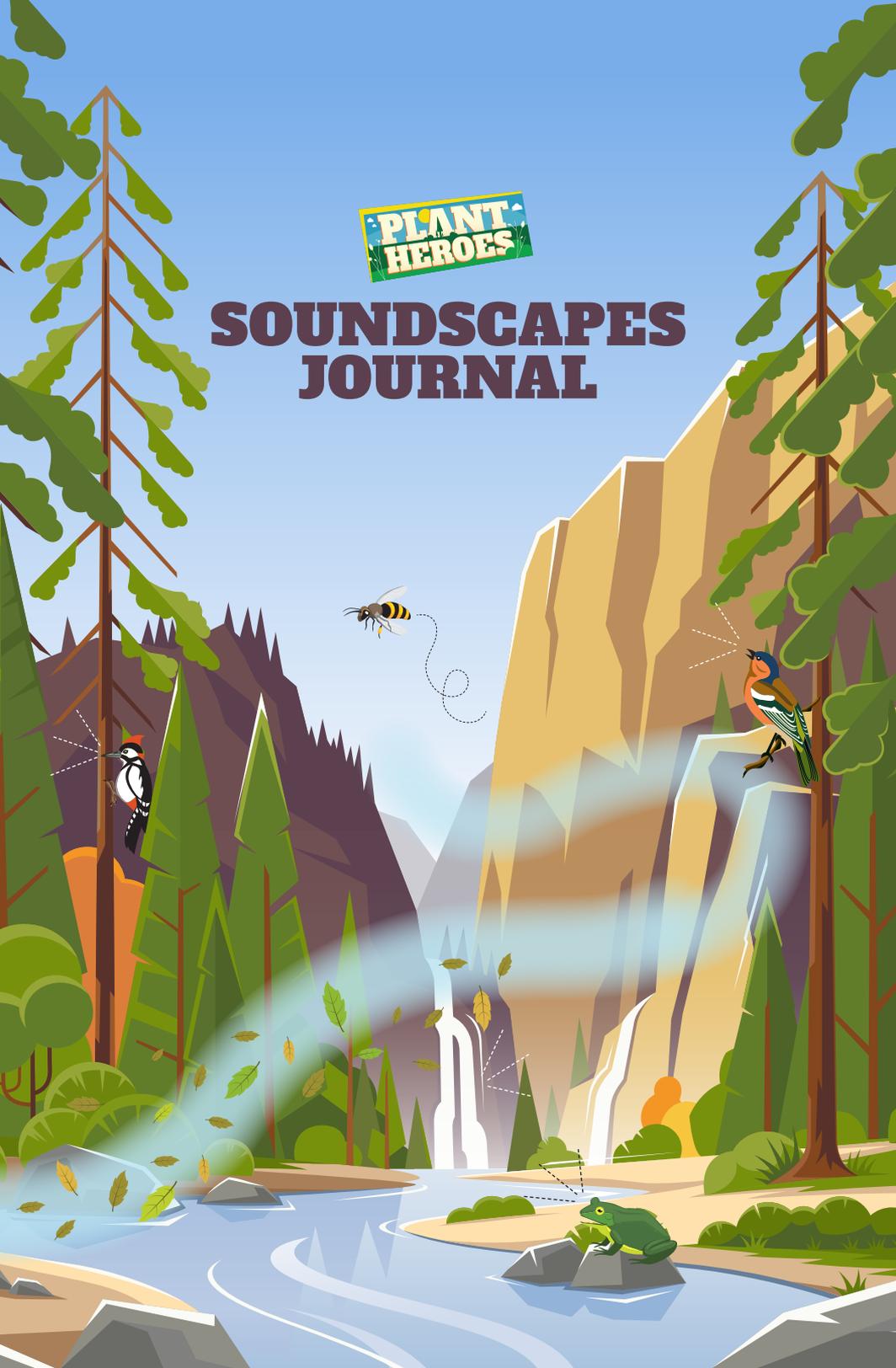


**PLANT  
HEROES**

# **SOUNDSCAPES JOURNAL**



## WHO (OR WHAT) MAKES NOISE HERE?

Sound is a part of every ecosystem and can tell us a lot about a place. For example, a forest will sound very different from a city or a desert.

All of the sounds that are made in a particular place during a particular length of time are called a soundscape.

Scientists that study sounds categorize sounds into three categories:

**Anthrophony**, or human-made sounds, such as a car going by or people talking



**Biophony**, or animal sounds, such as a bird singing



**Geophony**, or natural sounds from nonliving things, such as wind, rain, or waves



Follow the instructions on the next page to explore the sounds of the place you are in today.

## DISCOVER THE SOUNDSCAPES AROUND YOU!



This activity is better to do outdoors, but if you are unable to go outside, perhaps you can ask an adult to help you open a window.

- 1** Find a spot to listen to the sounds.
- 2** Before you start to listen, what sounds do you think you will hear?

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- 3** If you have a timer, set it for 3 minutes.



- 4** Listen to the sounds around you. Write down each new sound you hear on the next page.



- 5** If you hear a sound more than once, put a tally mark next to the sound that you heard.



**Date & Time**

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**Place**

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**HOW MANY SOUNDS  
DID YOU HEAR IN EACH  
CATEGORY?**

**Anthrophony**  
(human-made sounds)



**Biophony**  
(animal sounds)



**Geophony**  
(natural sounds from  
nonliving things)



Which type of sound did you hear the most?

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Did any of the sounds surprise you?

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What sound did you like the most?

What did you like the least?

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What did the sounds tell you about your environment?

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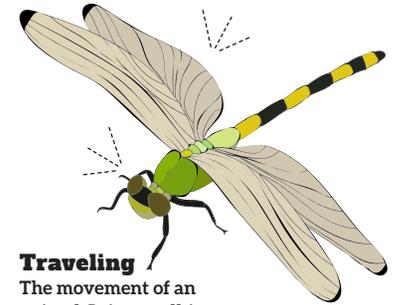
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Animals—and in particular, insects and birds—make a lot of sounds. Animal sounds are all around—think of the crunch of a leaf that an ant walks over; or the humming of a chorus of cicadas finding their mates; or the warning call of a chickadee; or the buzz of a bee flying around to pollinate flowers. Below are some reasons that animals might be making sounds.



**Communicating**

An animal may call to another animal to find them or to warn them of danger.



**Traveling**

The movement of an animal flying, walking, or crawling can create sound.

**Working**

An animal carrying food or nest building can also create sound.



Did you hear any animal sounds?

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If yes, why do you think the animal was making the sound?

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