

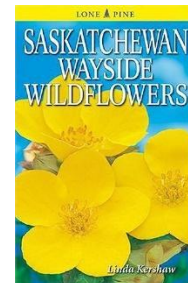
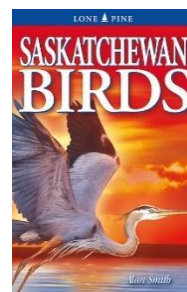
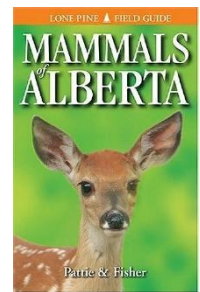
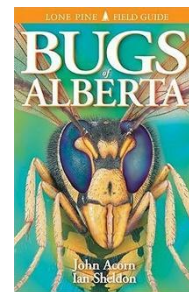
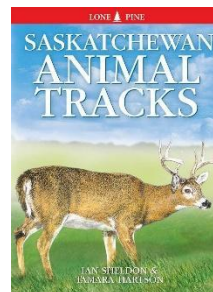
BioBlitz Kit Contents

Included in this Kit:

- 6 sets of binoculars, including:
 - 4 binocular tripods
 - 4 mobile phone adaptors
 - 4 manuals
 - 4 lens cloths
- 1 Amazon Fire tablet with Seek by iNaturalist app installed
 - 1 Seek app manual



- 5 wildlife books
 - Animal Tracks of Saskatchewan
 - Bugs of Alberta
 - Mammals of Alberta
 - Saskatchewan Birds
 - Saskatchewan Wayside Wildflowers



What is a BioBlitz?

A BioBlitz is a community-led gathering of information about species in a certain area held over a certain length of time. These community science events have led to the documentation of rare or endangered species in many countries, including Canada. By documenting the natural world and sharing these observations to a global database, anyone can give back to nature.

Each year, many different organizations in Canada host BioBlitzes. This kit was created in part with **Nature Conservancy of Canada**. This organization hosts a weekend-long Big Backyard BioBlitz (*backyardbioblitz.ca*) each summer, typically at the end of July/start of August. You do not have to be attached to a large event to host a BioBlitz. In fact, hosting any sort of event like this within a particular area (such as your town and surrounding area) is a BioBlitz on its own! **Ensure that you're exploring and viewing plants and animals SAFELY.**

Additional Resources

- Nature Conservancy of Canada: <https://www.natureconservancy.ca/>
- General Plant ID video: <https://youtu.be/fErNhrfnacM>
- Bird ID video: <https://youtu.be/3qy-KZ7DxOY>
- Summer Wildlife Tracking (recorded webinar): <https://youtu.be/YYz47DaY10s>

Links to plant identification resources in Saskatchewan:

Wildflower identification:

<https://www.saskwildflower.ca/native-plant-photos-list-of-all-plants-common-names.html>

Invasive species identification:

<http://www.saskforage.ca/images/pdfs/Publications/Invasive-Plant-Guide.pdf>

Range plants of southern Saskatchewan:

https://www.npss.sk.ca/rsu_docs/documents/id-native-plants-southern-sask.pdf

Riparian plants of Saskatchewan:

https://www.npss.sk.ca/rsu_docs/documents/id-riparian-plants-sask.pdf

Links to bird identification:

<https://www.birdscanada.org/apps/checklist/index.jsp>

<https://www.allaboutbirds.org/news/>

<https://www.audubon.org/birding/identifying-birds>

Duck identification:

<https://www.ducks.ca/species/>

Wildlife identification:

<https://cwf-fcf.org/en/resources/encyclopedias/fauna/index.jsp?page=9>

Program Ideas

- Wildlife Identification 101: Show patrons how to use the books and Seek app, then send them off in the area to explore for an hour. Reconvene and discuss the species found.
- Host a town/village/city-wide BioBlitz: Use your kit as a starting point for patrons to learn how to use the Seek app (they can explore the iNaturalist app if they want to get further involved). Patrons can make use of the binoculars and guidebooks, and then over a certain period of time, snap photos of species in the area as part of the library's program. The Seek app allows you to earn badges, so patrons with the most badges could earn a prize.
- Bring in a special guest to speak about conservation, and ask if they can discuss how BioBlitz is connected to citizen conservation efforts

IMPORTANT: You will see this warning in the binocular manual, but DO NOT POINT YOUR INSTRUMENTS DIRECTLY AT THE SUN. Not only can this damage your eyes, but the lenses of the binoculars can become damaged if they are aimed directly at the sun.