FRONT COVER: If you didn’t already know that the gray squirrel is a great climber, now you know. Find out more about this and other tree squirrels on pages 22–27.
PHOTO BY EDWIN GIESBERS/NPL/MINDEN PICTURES

BACK COVER: A young red fox is happy to find water wherever it can, even in someone’s backyard.
PHOTO BY HANNE AND JENS ERIKSEN/NPL/MINDEN PICTURES

PAGES 2–3: These bighorn sheep discover that walking up a street in this hilly desert town is a little like climbing a rocky hillside.
PHOTO BY DONALD M. JONES/MINDEN PICTURES
OWL ABOUT THAT!
Early one morning, we found a barn owl. It was sleeping on one of the garbage cans in our side yard. We called a local wildlife center, and they told us that it was probably a juvenile that had just left its nest. Around 8:00 that night, the owl flew off into the darkness. The next day, I found one of its pellets! I carefully pulled it apart and discovered tiny mouse bones inside. It was a very exciting couple of days! Here’s a photo of me inspecting the pellet (below).

Kairav P., California

BUTTERFLY BESTIE
Last summer, when I was watering the plants in our garden, I noticed some caterpillars in our pot of dill. I counted 18 of them! I read that caterpillars have many predators, so we decided to raise them in a butterfly cage in our house. We watched each caterpillar turn into a chrysalis and then a beautiful black swallowtail butterfly. Here’s a photo of one of them on my finger right before I released it (above right). I watched all of them fly away into the wild. It felt so good to have raised them safely!

Evan B., Illinois

FROGGY EGGS-PERIENCE
My family was walking in the woods near our house one day. We noticed clumps of frog eggs in a small stream. Over the next few weeks, we checked on the eggs. It was so much fun to watch the tadpoles hatch from their eggs, grow legs, and then finally lose their tails!

Maddy R., Massachusetts

Purr-fect Visitor
My brother and I heard a loud rustling noise in our backyard. We thought it was some squirrels, but we were wrong. A bobcat had wandered into our yard from the woods! It stayed for only a few minutes, then disappeared under our neighbor’s fence.

Haldan D., Connecticut

FEATHERED FRIENDS
Last winter, my dad and I built these bird feeders that are in our backyard. (See my photo at right.) Lots of different birds visit them. We see cardinals almost every day!

Curtis M., Wisconsin

Nature Note: You can search for frog eggs, too! Spring is the best time to find them. Save these egg-cellent tips for “hoppy” investigating next year: RangerRick.org/Egg-Hunt.
Meet Esther Horvath, the winner of our 2020 Ranger Rick Photographer of the Year Award! Do you remember “Antarctic Adventure” in our December/January 2020 issue and “Arctic Outpost” in our February 2020 issue? The COOL photos in those two stories were shot by Esther.

When Esther was six years old, she watched a show on TV about Antarctica. She was fascinated by the wildlife and snowy scenery there, and dreamed about visiting the continent one day. And now Esther has done just that! She has traveled to both ends of the Earth, observing and photographing animals in their native habitats. Here she is in Antarctica with a *gentoo penguin* chick (above).

Capturing spectacular images in the most remote locations on the planet isn’t easy. The weather at the North and South poles is bitter cold—average high temperatures in the winter months are below zero! Esther worried about getting frostbite on her fingers while taking photos. She told us, “I put hand warmers inside my gloves, and then I wore huge mittens on top of the gloves. At first, it was difficult to press the shutter button on my camera. But I was able to figure it out with lots of practice!”

Congratulations, Esther!

The letters on page 4 were written by members of our Ranger Rick advisory board. They’re all kids who love nature and the outdoors—and they help us make the magazine better. Want to be an advisor, too?

Just send an email to rick@nwf.org to learn how you can sign up.
WANT TO JOIN THE FUN? Send your favorite nature riddle with your full name and address to Reader Riddles; Ranger Rick; 11100 Wildlife Center Dr.; Reston, VA 20190-5362; E-mail: rick@nwf.org. We like reading all the riddles from our readers. We’re sorry, but there’s room to print only some of them. All submissions become the property of the National Wildlife Federation.
No matter where you live, you can get to know the wild creatures in your neighborhood—and then lend them a hand! Here are peeks at three different neighborhoods, along with some ideas for getting started wherever you live.

HELPING NATURE NEAR YOU

ART BY JACK DESROCHER
When Trinity Favazza, 14, was very young, she would explore the woods near her Detroit-area home with her family. One of her earliest memories is of listening to wood frogs singing in the spring. That’s when her love of frogs and other amphibians began.

As Trinity got older, she learned as much as she could about amphibians, including that they’re one of the most threatened groups of animals in the world. Since then, Trinity has worked to teach people about the need to save amphibians and wetlands.

One of her projects to raise awareness is called “Amphibians Rock.” It encourages kids to paint amphibians on rocks, then hide them around their neighborhood for other kids to find.

As one of the youngest members of the citizen science group FrogWatch USA, Trinity gathers information about frog calls and frog breeding, which she shares with local and national scientists.

Trinity continues to teach people about the importance of amphibians through social media and on her website, actionforamphibians.com.

“I want to inspire young people like me to help save our beautiful world and all the creatures in it,” she says, “especially amphibians.”

Millions of people in the United States enjoy birdwatching. Many keep lists of all the different kinds of birds they’ve seen. Do YOU keep a bird list?

Raccoons are now more common in cities than in the country. Why? For these and some other kinds of animals, cities make great homes. Cities usually are warmer than the countryside. There are fewer enemies in the city. And there’s a lot of food available—including garbage!
**What Can YOU Do?**

**MEET YOUR WILD NEIGHBORS**

How many of your wild neighbors do you know? What birds have you seen? Do you have ground squirrels or tree squirrels? Are there lizards where you live? It’s fun to find out!

Find a special spot to call your own—a nearby park or your backyard, a stream or vacant lot. Now go explore!

Here are some places to look: on plants; on tree trunks, branches and leaves; under loose bark; under logs, rocks, and fallen leaves; and under or on water.

**BE THE NEIGHBORHOOD EXPERT**

Sketch or write about your wild neighbors in a nature journal—and tell your friends what you’ve found. What plants are growing? What animals did you see? You can even make a website about your neighborhood’s nature. Have a parent help you look online to learn how.

**IT’S EASY BEING GREEN**

Another great way to get to know nature is by spending a “green hour” outdoors. Check out thegreenhour.org for some great activities.

**TELL US!**

Where is the strangest place you ever found wildlife? In a bathtub? In your shoe? Send your weird wildlife discovery to Ranger Rick

11100 Wildlife Center Dr.
Reston, VA 20190-5362

Email: rick@nwf.org

All letters, photos, and drawings become the property of the National Wildlife Federation.
She's Helping!

Madhvi Chittoor, 9, was just 5 years old when she learned how harmful plastic trash is to wildlife. By age 7, she’d written and published a book about plastic pollution. She had also founded Madhvi 4 EcoEthics, which works to reduce pollution from Styrofoam and other plastics.

Madhvi knew that Styrofoam is one of the worst kinds of plastic. So she worked for months to convince her Denver-area school district to switch from Styrofoam lunch trays to ones that are not harmful to the environment. This kept 7.6 million Styrofoam trays from going to the landfill each year!

Next, Madhvi convinced lawmakers to propose a statewide ban on Styrofoam take-out containers and single-use plastics in restaurants and grocery stores. And now she’s working for a global ban on plastics and harmful chemicals with a petition at madhvi4ee.com. No wonder Madhvi, who has a black belt in Taekwondo, likes to call herself the “No Styrofoam Ninja”!

Want more wildlife to come to your yard? Put in a birdbath or dig a pond. Be sure to keep the water clean!

Build a bat box! For instructions, go with a parent to batcon.org/about-bats/bat-houses.

Do deer eat plants in your yard? Go online with a parent to look for a list of native plants that deer might not like.
What Can YOU Do?

MAKE YOUR SCHOOL AN ECO-SCHOOL
More than 5,500 schools around the country are making changes that help the environment. For example, they are recycling or finding ways to save energy. To learn how your school can become an Eco-School, have your teacher or parent go to nwf.org/Eco-Schools-USA.

MAKE IT OFFICIAL
You can certify your backyard or schoolyard wildlife habitat with the National Wildlife Federation, the group that publishes Ranger Rick. To find out how, have an adult go to nwf.org/certify online.

ENDANGERED SPECIES
Want to help save endangered species? Here’s how.
1. Find out which live near you. Go with a parent to fws.gov/endangered and enter your state.
2. Do some research. Go to the library or search online to look up information about these species.
3. Find groups of people who are helping your species. Check with your library or nature center and ask these questions:
   • Is there a local environmental group you could join?
   • Are there local animals or plants that need your help?
4. Spread the word. Make a poster. Write a report. Tell your class, friends, and neighbors. Give the endangered animals and plants in your area the attention they deserve!

WELCOME WILDLIFE
Want to attract wildlife to your backyard or schoolyard? It’s easy! To get animals to drop by or move in, here’s what you need to provide:
• Food. Anything from a simple bird feeder to a garden full of native plants with leaves, flowers, berries, and nuts and other seeds that animals like to eat.
• Water. A birdbath or shallow dish for birds, or a small pond for frogs and other water creatures.
• Shelter. Brush piles, stone walls, shrubs, and trees all make good hideaways.
• Places to Raise Young. Bird houses; bat houses; and certain trees, shrubs, and leafy plants (for insects) are great spots.

Bluebirds need houses! You can go online with a parent to get a bluebird house plan at nabluebirdsociety.org/fact-sheets-plans. Scroll down to “Eastern/Western Bluebird Nestbox.”

When your family cuts your grass, don’t rake up the clippings. Just leave them on the lawn! They’ll act as a natural fertilizer—better than using chemicals.

A pile of branches or rocks makes a good home for chipmunks, lizards, and other small animals.
He’s Helping!

Topher Jones, 13, first learned about endangered salmon at his school in Boise, Idaho. Salmon hatch in rivers, and then they spend time in the ocean until it’s time to return and lay eggs. But Topher learned that, years earlier, sockeye salmon were so endangered that, at one lake in Idaho, only a single salmon had returned.

People named this lone salmon “Lonesome Larry.” Topher was inspired by Larry’s story. He came up with the idea of “socks to save the sockeye!” Then he worked with an artist on a sockeye salmon design. Now he sells sockeye socks and other items at Idaho Steelheads ice hockey games and local coffee shops, as well as on his website, lonesomelarryproject.com. So far, Topher has raised more than $15,000 to protect the salmon! His ultimate goal is to raise $100,000.

“I’ve learned that the world has so many problems, but we can come up with solutions,” Topher says. “Everyone can help make a difference.”
What Can YOU Do?

BECOME A CITIZEN SCIENTIST
You can volunteer to help scientists who help wildlife. The information you collect can show scientists how animals are being affected by habitat loss and other problems. Here are two for you and your family to consider: FrogWatch USA (aza.org/frogwatch) and Audubon’s Christmas Bird Count (audubon.org/conservation/join-christmas-bird-count).

CLEAN IT UP
Litter is everywhere, but you can help get rid of it! You and your family can take part in National CleanUp Day in September. Have a parent help you look online at nationalcleanupday.org.

BE A BUTTERFLY HERO
Because of habitat loss, monarch butterflies are in trouble across the country. You can help them by planting milkweed that monarchs need to survive. Visit nwf.org/Butterfly-Heroes/About with a parent and take the Butterfly Heroes pledge to help save monarchs!

GO FOR IT!
Trinity (page 8) is a winner of an Action for Nature Eco-Hero Award. Madhvi (page 10) and Topher (page 12) are winners of the Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes. If you’ve done a project for wildlife or the environment, you can try for these awards, too. Go to actionfornature.org or barronprize.org for information on how to apply.

Meet more champions for wildlife on the Scarlett’s Superstars webpage: RangerRick.org/superstars.
You probably should know that a family like yours lives in this house, too. We’re all looking for the same things: food, water, shelter, and space for the kids.

The people here act as if they own the place! They often don’t even know we’re here. When they find out, they usually try to get rid of us. But as long as we stay out of their way, it’s a pretty good deal for us.

A carpenter ant like me, for example, really appreciates a place like this. Wherever my ant pals and I find some wet wood, we’re happy. We chew through it to make our nests. What if too many of us chew too much? Well, the wood does finally fall apart, so we move on. For some reason, humans hate to find us in their homes.

A house mouse

My tiny jaws are nothing next to the chompers on Minerva Mouse, who is headed for trouble. She’s already chewed a big hole through the wall. And now she’s gnawing that electrical cable. Shocking!

Mice can and do gnaw on just about anything. Maybe Minerva is keeping her teeth in shape or is collecting material for nest-building. Or maybe the cable is just blocking her way.
DEER MOUSE ►

That’s Minerva’s cousin Dani Deer Mouse. If you look underneath, you can tell them apart. Deer mice have white fur there, and house mice don’t. As you can see, Dani is ready to raise a family. See how she borrowed things from her human housemates to make her cozy nest?

How did these mice get inside? It doesn’t take much of an opening. They can squeeze through a hole the size of a dime!

◄ LADYBUGS

Check out the mass of red dots on that house wall. It’s a cozy cluster of ladybugs during the chilly season. Some adult insects die off in winter. But not these beetles. Once things warm up in the spring, they split up and head their separate ways.

▲ COCKROACH

There’s always action in the kitchen—especially at night after the lights are out. That’s when Robin Roach prowls the counters. Jackpot!

Here’s a fun fact for you: A single cockroach mom could have 30,000 babies in a year. Guess you could call that a full house, right?
Little Brown Bats

Uh-oh, look who squeezed in through some cracks in the attic for a snooze. Betty and her friends found a safe space for raising a new generation of bats.

Sorry, Betty—don’t chirp at us. We didn’t mean to startle you. Now, don’t panic and try to escape into the people’s part of the house. If that happens, you’ll set off an even bigger panic! Just go back to sleep.

House Spider

Meet Harry House Spider. No, he’s not trying to take a bath. He either crawled into the tub for a sip—or he slipped. Bathtubs can be hard to climb out of. By the way, I have more reason than you do to be afraid of spiders. They’d much rather eat insects like me than annoy you humans.

House Centipede

I could say the same thing about Cindy Centipede. She’s a real pro at gobbling up insects that try to make a living here. People freak out when they see Cindy making a quick getaway on all those legs. But they should be happy she’s around—as long as they never catch sight of her!
**CAMEL CRICKET**

Is there any room at this inn? Camille Cricket is crawling up a window screen, looking for a way inside. She usually visits in search of shelter when the weather turns cold. She thinks the basement in a house is as good as any cave, where most of her relatives live.

Now, don’t confuse hump-backed Camille with a house or field cricket. Her kind is the quiet type. The others are the ones that come inside and chirp-chirp-chirp at night.

---

**RACCOON**

Please tell me that’s not Ranger Rick! Nah, he would never scrounge for garbage. He has his own nice oak tree home over in Deep Green Wood. This is Roger Raccoon, making a mess of someone’s trash. He can’t help it, though. He’s just looking for easy eats that somebody threw out with the trash. People really need to do a better job of securing their garbage! Raccoons freeload off humans all the time. Some might even crawl into a chimney or attic space to use as a nursery.

Well, that’s it. I enjoyed your visit. Maybe next time, we could tour your house. I’d LOVE to see who YOUR wild housemates are!
Stop it! Creek, crick, brook, stream... they're all good names for the same thing. So why argue?

It's "CREEK"!

No—it's "CRICK"!

Yeah! Whatever you call it, we're going to have a great time when we get there. Let's hurry!

Oh, my. I'm getting so tired, my bones are starting to CREEK.

Yeah, me, too. I think I'm getting a CRICK in my neck.

Here we are! Wait—what happened?!

I was hoping for some crayfish for lunch. I can't find anything in this stream!

You're not the only one who can't find a square meal around here.

Oh, hello! Do you live here?

Yes, but I'm on my way out. As you can see, it's not much of a home for animals now.

Ranger Rick Raccoon, Scarlett Fox, Boomer Badger, and Reggie Otter are on their way to a creek they haven't visited in many months. A picnic is in their future, but Reggie and Boomer can't seem to stop arguing.
A while later...

The frog explains that lots of people are moving from cities into the countryside. With them come houses, shopping malls, parking lots, and roads. Some people call this sprawl, because new buildings sprawl—or spread out—all over the countryside.

When it rains, the water hits all those roofs and roads and can’t soak into the ground. Then, too much water floods into the streams all at once.

Yes—and the water coming from the neighborhood has pollution in it, like oil, pesticides, and other chemicals.

Yuck!!

So THAT’S why many of the animals that lived here are now gone.

I don’t get it. What does a new neighborhood have to do with the stream?

All these houses were built just a few months ago.

What’s wrong with too much water?

It erodes—or washes away—the soil in the stream banks.

And all that soil ends up in the stream, making it hard for fish and other creatures to breathe and catch prey.

What’s that sound? Another bulldozer?

Let’s hide!

The friends leave the new neighborhood behind.

RUMBLE, RUMBLE

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The friends leave the new neighborhood behind.

RUMBLE, RUMBLE
Over at Crooked CRICK?
No, at Crooked CREEK!

Over at Crooked CRICK?
No, at Crooked CREEK!

I hope all this work will make the stream come ALIVE again.
Me, too. But I don’t think it’ll happen in time for lunch! Anyone else hungry?

I’ve seen people do this in other places. They’re restoring the stream—making it more natural again.

OK, I know another place that might still have some crayfish and other good stuff. Let’s go!

That machine is making the stream channel curvy again. That’ll slow down the water, which helps slow down erosion.

And the roots of those new trees will help soak up rainwater and hold the soil in place.

That machine is making the stream channel curvy again. That’ll slow down the water, which helps slow down erosion.

RANGER RICK’S FIELD NOTES

• Some laws require builders to protect the surrounding land. Many people are working to make those laws even stronger.

• In your neighborhood, you can help keep waterways healthy.
  o Collect water in a rain barrel as it runs off your roof. Use the water for washing your pets or cars or for watering your garden.
  o Don’t use fertilizer or pesticide. Rain can wash these chemicals into a nearby stream or river.
  o Never dump used motor oil or anything else into a storm drain.
  o Do you have a soggy spot in your yard? Turn it into a rain garden by planting water-loving native plants there to soak up the extra water.

Oh! Thank goodness!
What’s going on?

Oh, no—not again!
Animal fun that lasts all year long!

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NUTTY NEIGHBORS!

BY Anne Cissel
Eastern gray squirrels are the most common species of squirrel in the eastern half of the United States. Gray squirrels belong to a group called “tree squirrels,” but, as you can see here, a windowsill can be as comfy as a branch!

They scamper, leap, and raid our bird feeders. Look out—they’re eastern gray squirrels!

Trespassers! A mother gray squirrel checks in on her baby, which is cozy inside a bird house. This young squirrel is half grown. At birth, it was pink and hairless.

Sometimes squirrels make themselves at home . . . in your home! Unlike most wild animals, eastern gray squirrels are comfortable living close to humans.

Watch one RAID A FEEDER!
Eastern gray squirrels are not tame, but they can lose their fear of people. This one appears to be asking for a handout!

Go, squirrel, go! Nuts are a big part of a gray squirrel’s diet, but squirrels also eat berries, seeds, flowers, bark—even sometimes insects and small rodents!

Gray squirrels are born acrobats. Like this stretchy fellow, they leap from branch to branch, using their sharp claws to hang on. They also can scamper down trees headfirst with perfect control.
It’s hard to outsmart a squirrel, as anyone with a bird feeder knows. Not only can gray squirrels think of ways to steal birdseed, but they can keep track of many places they’ve hidden nuts and other tasty treats. The squirrels are also smart enough to fool other squirrels. If one thinks another squirrel is watching it, it will just pretend to bury a nut—and then bury it someplace else later.

Gray squirrels use their bushy tails for balance and to “talk” to each other. They flick their tails back and forth to say, “Danger!” Squirrels also make a lot of noise if they spot a threat: “Kuk! Kuk! Kuk!”
Gray squirrels are busy with more than just finding food. They gather dead leaves and twigs to build cozy nests, or dreyis (DRAYZ), up in the trees (circle). They also will nest inside tree hollows, especially in colder areas.

A gray squirrel kit weighs only about half an ounce at birth. That’s half the weight of one AA battery! Kits will usually stay in the nest for three months.
Eastern gray squirrels aren’t the only squirrels in the United States. Meet a few of their American cousins! 🐿️
The Everywhere Bird
This bird should look familiar. After all, it can be found in almost any city around the world. Birdwatchers call it rock pigeon. You probably just call it “pigeon.”

But pigeons didn’t always live in the United States. They lived only in Europe, North Africa, and parts of Asia. Early European settlers brought tame ones over to this country. Some of the tame birds escaped into the wild. They grew in number and quickly spread across the country. The city birds you see now are related to these “pigeon pioneers.”

So why do pigeons find cities such great places to live? A clue comes from their other name: rock pigeon. The truly wild ones live near rocky cliffs in open areas. They make their nests in nooks and crannies in the cliffs, and they find their food by pecking around on the ground for seeds. In a city, tall buildings with window ledges work as well as rocky cliffs. And city sidewalks have plenty of dropped crumbs and other tidbits to peck at. It’s a pigeon paradise! Read on to get to know some of these pigeons a little better.
This pigeon’s owner specially trained it to race against other pigeons. In a race, it may fly faster than a car drives on the freeway.

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This pigeon’s owner specially trained it to race against other pigeons. In a race, it may fly faster than a car drives on the freeway.

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**Clever Birds**

Pigeons may be birds, but they aren’t “bird-brained.” They are smart and very trainable. In fact, thousands of years ago, pigeons became the first birds to be trained by people.

Back before cell phones—or any phones at all—people trained pigeons to deliver messages that had been tied to the birds’ legs. The ancient Egyptians and Greeks were among the first. But as recently as World Wars I and II, pigeons flew across enemy lines to pass messages and save the day. A few received special medals for their service!

Even without training, a wild pigeon that’s trapped and released far from home can find its way back—blindfolded! Scientists have learned that the birds use the Earth’s magnetic fields to figure out where to go.

In peacetime, people raise tame pigeons for lots of reasons. Some keep them as pets. Others...
Pigeons do not naturally belong in the United States. But some pigeon relatives, such as this mourning dove parent and chick, do. To “mourn” means to be sad about something. Some people think the birds’ soft coos sound sad.

If you think pigeons are boring, take a closer look! These kids are learning about pigeon behavior as part of the National Audubon Society’s Pigeon Watch. Check out one kid’s drawing that shows a single pigeon’s color pattern.

Pigeon Watch

Pigeons are common. But they are uncommonly interesting to watch! Would you like to know why the pigeons you see may bow their heads, drag their tails, or fluff up their neck feathers? Visit the National Audubon Society’s Pigeon Watch page at RangerRick.org/pigeonwatch to learn about pigeon behaviors. On that page, print out Audubon’s Pigeon Watch Checklist. Then head to a park where pigeons flock. Watch the birds closely.

What differences do you spot between pigeons? Can you pick out mated pairs? How do they act toward each other? By the time you’ve filled out your checklist, you’ll be a pigeon-watching pro!

train them to fly in races. And others breed them to have fancy, colorful feathers for show.
MAKE A PECKING PIGEON
BY DEBBIE EDWARDS
ART BY JOHN GALLAGHER

What You Do

1. Download and print the pigeon pattern.

2. Color both birds so they look the same.

3. Cut out the pattern along the solid black lines. Then fold it in half along the dotted line.

4. Glue the pattern together along the top and side edges. (Leave the bottom open.)

5. Once the glue has dried, put one end of the pencil inside the pattern and tape in place.

6. Roll the pencil between your hands. Watch what happens!

What You Need

- pigeon pattern (available at RangerRick.org/pigeon-craft)
- crayons, colored pencils, or markers
- glue
- tape
- pencil

Nature Note
Pigeons come in many colors and patterns. Why not make a flock of different pecking pigeons? 🦔
Where have you been?

4:00 PM

My mother and I just got a battery so I can operate my giant pirate karate robot.

4:10 PM

Can you teach it to growl when it combats enemies?

4:13 PM

Maybe, but now all it does is make a pleasant beep when it sticks out its sword. BTW, I’m wondering if you can go bowling Sunday afternoon when it’s not so crowded.

4:30 PM

No, we’re going to Crater Lake Sunday. But I want you to send a video of your prowling robot when it’s having a tantrum. Bye.

4:45 PM

Wild animals that live in cities often hide from humans. The ones shown on this page are even sneaking around in Beth’s and Dan’s text messages. Circle their names—and then check them off—each time you find one. One is done for you.
SAME GAME

Any of these creatures might be found in a city park or neighborhood. Those in each ROW and in each COLUMN all have something in common. What is it?

They all...

__ A. have feathers.
__ B. are good swimmers.
__ C. are insects.
__ D. can fly.
__ E. are sometimes underground.
__ F. have “o” in their names.
__ G. are mammals.
__ H. are mostly brown.

PIGEON PALS

Each pigeon has two matching pals with the same feather colors and patterns—except for Logan, who likes to be alone. Look for the two pals of each numbered pigeon. (One of Pigeon 1’s pals has been found for you.) When you’ve finished, you’ll know which one is Logan.
WHAT DOES THE FOX EAT?

City foxes eat what country foxes do: small animals and fruits. City foxes also steal food left out for pets and in garbage. Here are some things that foxes DON’T eat. But if you unscramble the letters in the words, you’ll discover things they DO eat. The first one is done for you.

__ A. have feathers.
__ B. are good swimmers.
__ C. are insects.
__ D. can fly.
__ E. are sometimes underground.
__ F. have “o” in their names.
__ G. are mammals.
__ H. are mostly brown.

City Sneakers: 1 (been), 2 (mother, battery, operate, giant, pirate, karate), 3 (growl, combats), 4 (pleasnt, beep, sticks, bowling, crowded), 5 (crater, want, prowling, tantrum).

Pigeon Pals: 1 (H, L), 2 (I, P), 3 (C, K), 4 (A, N), 5 (G, M), 6 (J, O), 7 (none), 8 (E, F), 9 (B, D).

Logan is Pigeon #7.

Use the word sign if you need help. Careful—there are extras.

Celebrate nature where YOU live—even if it’s in a busy city!

Discover how on pages 7–13.
Bird bath?! Looks like a fox fountain to me!