GET READY. GET SET. GET NUTS!

the Nut Job 2
nutty by nature

AUGUST 11
ONLY IN THEATERS

Outdoor Activities for Kids and Families
Hey Kids, Parents and Educators!

As the film’s education partner, NWF is providing a list of fun activities to help you and wildlife enthusiasts of all ages conserve public lands and connect with nature.

Go Visit a Park Near You!

Did you know that when your parents were your age, kids spent twice as much time playing outside as kids do now? It’s true! Ask your parents and teachers to visit nwf.org find out how to make being outdoors an easy, fun and healthy part of everyday life.

Whether you go to a park in the city, the wilderness or anywhere in-between, you can have a great time in the great outdoors. Here are just a few of the fun things you could do:

- **Get Active.** Hike a trail, fly a kite, float leaf boats down a stream, skip a stone across a pond, roll down a hill, climb a tree, play hide-and-seek in the tall grass, or build a fort.
- **Watch Wildlife.** Listen and spot birds, roll over a log to find insects and worms, sit still and study squirrels or rabbits or other mammals, watch the clouds go by and look for different types and shapes, or enjoy the light show when the fireflies come out at night.
- **Camp Out.** Set up a tent and sleep under the stars.
- **Have a Picnic.** Eat a snack in the park. Can you find other creatures doing the same thing?
- **Become a Photo Journalist.** Take pictures of your favorite park! It could be a big national park or your neighborhood green space, as long as you take the photo yourself. You and your parents can share your photos here and enter our contest. www.nwf.org/Kids/Ranger-Rick/Photo-Contest.aspx

THE FILM OPENS IN THEATERS NATIONWIDE ON AUGUST 11

In this fun-filled sequel, Surly, your favorite mischievous squirrel (voiced by Will Arnett) returns. He and his buddies such as Andie (voiced by Katherine Heigl) and other characters band together to stop Oakton City’s mayor from destroying their city park home.
NUTTY WORD FIND

The nuts in the list are seeds that grow on trees. Can you find them all in the puzzle in under 10 minutes?

WHAT YOU DO:

1. Find each of the words below in the search box!

   Acorn  Butternut  Hazelnut  Pistachio
   Almond  Cashew  Hickory Nut  Walnut
   Brazil Nut  Chestnut  Pecan

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MAKE A NATURE NOTEBOOK

Record your observations of your outdoor time in a homemade nature notebook.

WHAT YOU NEED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cardboard</th>
<th>Ranger Rick Nature Notebook Pages (optional)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hole Punch</td>
<td>Scissors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>Sit-upon (something waterproof to sit on, like a pillow in a plastic bag)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pencil</td>
<td>Twist ties</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WHAT YOU DO

1. Gather the pages for your nature notebook.
   A. You can use scrap paper, copy the following page or print our Ranger Rick Notebook pages.
   B. Punch holes in the paper with a hole punch.

2. Cut a piece of cardboard just a bit larger than your paper.
   A. Punch corresponding hole along the edge of the cardboard.
   B. Line up the paper and cardboard holes. Then put in a twist-tie to hold the paper on the cardboard.
      Now you have a Nature Notebook with a hard back that you can take outside.

3. Find a nice spot in nature where you would like to sit quietly and observe.
   A. It helps if you sit for at least 30 minutes and look all around. Find something you want to write about or draw.
NATURE NOTEBOOK

Date ________________ Location ________________

Time ________________ Weather ________________

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SPY ON SQUIRRELS

Your mission, should you decide to accept it, is to head outside and see what your local tree squirrels are up to.

KEEP A RECORD!

Date: _____________________________
Time: _____________________________
Location: ___________________________
Weather: ___________________________

HELPFUL THINGS TO TAKE ALONG!

- Binoculars
- Your nature notebook
- Pencil

CAN YOU SPOT THE FOLLOWING TREE SQUIRREL BEHAVIORS? CHECK OFF EACH ONE YOU SEE IT.

- **Clever Climbing.** Squirrel are treetop climbers. With gripping feet and long tails for balance, they climb high and leap along from branch to branch.

- **Chasing and Racing.** In late winter, squirrels choose mates. Males share female and try to chase away other males.

- **Busy Building.** Squirrels make leafy nests in tree holes and on branches. If you spot what seems to be a messy pile of leaves up in a tree, it’s likely a squirrel nest, called a drey (DRAY).

- **Daring Dining.** You may have seen squirrels trying all kinds of tricks to get the seeds in a bird feeder. They don’t give up easily!

- **Zigging and Zagging.** Have you seen a squirrel run out into the road in front of a car, stop, run back, run forward again, and barely escape? The routine seems foolish, but it’s a trick that works well when an animal is chasing the squirrel -- just not so well when the “predator” is a car.

- **Treasure seeking.** Across and other nuts are favorite foods for squirrels. They stash nuts in trees and bury them in the ground. Then in winter, when food is scarce, they use their sharp noses to sniff out the hidden snacks.

- **Chatterboxing.** Squirrels chatter, click, and squeak to talk to each other. They also may flick their tails. What they are usually saying is, “Stay away this food is mine.”
Surly and his pals set out in search of food and the perfect place to live. Here’s a fun game to go outside and test your smarts.

Look for nature’s alphabet! Once you begin to look, letter shapes pop out everywhere.

Letters are hiding on the ground, in the trees, on the water, and in the sky. For example, a branch can form a “y”, a vine can form an “s” and a blade of grass can form an “i”. Once you begin to look at the world this way, letter shapes pop out at you from everywhere!

Find the letters in your first name. Then look for the rest of the alphabet.

A  B  C  D  E  F  G  H  I  J  K  L  M
N  O  P  Q  R  S  T  U  V  W  X  Y  Z
HELP WILDLIFE IN YOUR OWN BACKYARD THIS SUMMER!

A few simple changes to your backyard will bring wildlife into view from your windows.

**PROVIDE FOOD FOR WILDLIFE**

Just like Surly, everyone needs to eat! Planting native plants, shrubs and trees is the easiest way to provide the leaves, nectar, pollen, berries, seeds and nuts that many species of wildlife need to survive and thrive. You can also add bird feeders and other food sources.

**SUPPLY WATER FOR WILDLIFE**

All wildlife need clean water sources for many purposes, including drinking, bathing and raising babies. Water Sources include natural features such as ponds, lakes, rivers, springs, oceans and wetlands. They also include human-made features such as bird baths, puddling areas for butterflies, installed ponds or rain gardens.

**CREATE COVER FOR WILDLIFE**

Where does Surly go when he just wants to be an average squirrel? All wildlife need places to hide in order to be safe from people, predators, and bad weather. You can help them find shelter by adding things such as bird or bath houses, native vegetation, shrubs, thickets and brush piles, or even dead trees.

Find lots more about Gardening for Wildlife and Certified Wildlife Habitat at [www.nwf.org/habitats](http://www.nwf.org/habitats)
MAKE YOUR PLEDGE TO HELP WILDLIFE AND PARKS!

Like all wildlife, Surly and Andie need wild places to live and play. Think of all the reasons wildlife and natural areas such as parks are important to people too. How can you help? Get outside and explore; to learn about local plants and animals where you live. Write a pledge saying what you will do to protect wildlife and then hang it on your door as a daily reminder.

WHAT YOU NEED:

• Doorhanger cutout
• Scissors
• Crayons or markers

WHAT YOU DO:

1. Cut out the doorhanger shape on this page, or use it as a pattern to cut the shape out of construction paper, cardboard, or craft foam.

2. Write your pledge to help wildlife and parks on the blank side of the doorhanger.

3. Decorate the doorhanger however you like.

4. If you want, laminate the doorhanger or cover it with clear contact paper to make it more durable.

5. Hang the doorhanger on any door in your home to remind you to keep your pledge and to get outside each day.