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BIOBLITZ



JOIN citizen **SCIENTISTS** in parks
to **LEARN** about **BIODIVERSITY**

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WHAT IS A BIOBLITZ?

A BioBlitz is an intensive citizen-science biodiversity survey. Experts and volunteers alike work together to conduct a field survey to record as many species as possible living in a designated area. This citizen-science event is open to the public, scientists, students, experts, and volunteers. BioBlitzes usually take place over one day, possibly overnight.

HOW CAN BIOBLITZES MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO PARTICIPANTS?

BioBlitzes make for great opportunities for people to explore natural areas and help their favorite park map the site, the trails and natural assets. They are a fun and easy outdoor activity for participants of all ages. A BioBlitz is a special chance for the public to engage in a scientific event to help preserve biodiversity and reconnect to flora and fauna in their natural habitats.

HOW CAN BIOBLITZES MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO SCIENCE?

BioBlitzes provide a snapshot of biodiversity in an area that contributes valuable data to on-line biodiversity atlases (such as GBIF and EddMaps), which allow extensive research on biodiversity and species distributions both locally and globally.

A BioBlitz, when conducted regularly at the same location, is also a great tool for monitoring biodiversity in an area over time. They can document trends, and help address conservation successes and current threats.

When scientists and citizens work together, they are able to uncover both rare and invasive species. Appropriate response to invasions is only possible with early detection of those unwanted plants and animals, and BioBlitzes offer a way to monitor these threats to biodiversity.

WHAT IS INATURALIST?

BioBlitzes rely on the iNaturalist platform (<https://www.inaturalist.org>) to collect and publish biodiversity data.

Created in 2008 by students at UC Berkley, iNaturalist is a collaborative platform used to collect natural history observations from citizen-scientists. Citizens can upload photos from the phone app which are then reviewed on the iNaturalist website. To date, there have been over 14 million observations.

