

# Highlighted Activities

## May 11 - May 15

### Weekly Theme: Spring has Sprung!

You may notice the days are longer and the weather is warming up. Spring is here, which means more time for exploring the great outdoors! In many parts of the world in the Spring, plants grow, flowers bloom, and baby animals are born. This week, enjoy the warmer temperatures and take time to go outside - you never know what you might discover!

### Grades PreK - 2

<i>Weekly Activity</i>	<p><b>Title: Planting a Garden</b></p> <p>Nature Cat follows Fred, a house cat who dreams of exploring the great outdoors. In each episode, once his family leaves for the day, Fred transforms into Nature Cat, “backyard explorer extraordinaire. Spring is a time to look for plants growing in your yard, and maybe even plant some of your own. After watching Nature Cat at 7:30 a.m. Monday through Friday on WPSU’s main broadcast channel, try helping Daisy decide what to plant in her garden with this printable activity.</p> <p><a href="https://cms-tc.pbskids.org/global/DaisysGarden.12.7.15.pdf?mtime=20180726135801">https://cms-tc.pbskids.org/global/DaisysGarden.12.7.15.pdf?mtime=20180726135801</a></p>
<i>Science-U@Home</i>	<p><b>Title: Magnificent Mimicry</b></p> <p>Mimicry occurs when a plant or animal looks like another species to help it survive. One of the best examples of this is the Monarch and Viceroy butterflies, which have similar colors despite one tasting bitter to predators (Monarchs) and the other not tasting bitter (Viceroy). Try this experiment to explore how Viceroy butterflies use mimicry to trick predators!</p> <p><a href="https://science-u.org/experiments/magnificent-mimicry.html">https://science-u.org/experiments/magnificent-mimicry.html</a></p>

## Grades 3-5

<i>Weekly Activity</i>	<p><b>Title: Exploring Animal Life</b></p> <p>Join the adventures of Chris and Martin Kratt every day at 8:00 a.m. as they encounter incredible wild animals, combining science education with fun and adventure, while traveling to animal habitats around the globe. If you want to investigate your backyard like the Kratt brothers, this list of activities from PBS Parents can get you started.</p> <p><a href="https://www.pbs.org/parents/thrive/simple-ways-to-explore-animal-life-with-your-child">https://www.pbs.org/parents/thrive/simple-ways-to-explore-animal-life-with-your-child</a></p>
<i>Science-U@Home</i>	<p><b>Title: Do leaves breathe?</b></p> <p>Create an environment to observe leaves breathing. Plants use their leaves to recycle carbon dioxide and turn it into food for themselves and oxygen for us. In this experiment, create an environment where you can see this carbon dioxide/oxygen exchange happening!</p> <p><a href="https://science-u.org/experiments/do-leaves-breathe.html">https://science-u.org/experiments/do-leaves-breathe.html</a></p>

## Grades 6-12

<i>Weekly Activity</i>	<p><b>Title: Deadly Carnivorous Plants</b></p> <p>Carnivorous plants have developed adaptations that allow them to survive in nutrient-poor conditions by drawing nutrients from such prey as insects, crustaceans, and even small mammals. Watch <i>Plants Behaving Badly</i> at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday May 12 on WPSU's main broadcast channel to learn more about carnivorous plants. If you want to learn even more about these fascinating plants, visit this video and discussion questions.</p> <p><a href="https://wpsu.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/nvgs-sci-deadlyplants/wgbh-nova-gross-science-four-deadly-carnivorous-plants/">https://wpsu.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/nvgs-sci-deadlyplants/wgbh-nova-gross-science-four-deadly-carnivorous-plants/</a></p>
<i>Science-U@Home</i>	<p><b>Title: Can you “water” plants with other liquids?</b></p> <p>Most seeds need warmth, light, and water to start growing. But what happens when you replace water with other types of liquids? Test them out using this experiment!</p> <p><a href="https://science-u.org/experiments/can-you-water-plants-with-other-liquids.html">https://science-u.org/experiments/can-you-water-plants-with-other-liquids.html</a></p>