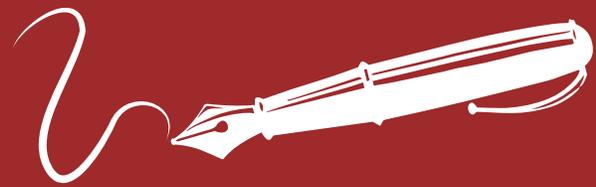


WRITE A STORY!



Stories are a great way to learn because they entertain and give us information. Writing is also a fun, creative way to share what you know with others.

Use the following fill-in-the-blank prompts to write your own story about spending time in nature and the insects or spiders you encounter, as well as other plants and animals. You might need your adult to help you look up information in a book or online to write your story.

If you're having writer's block, go around your neighborhood and see what inspires you! Share your story with us at communications@mpm.edu or [#MPMWhatWillYouFind](https://twitter.com/MPMWhatWillYouFind) on social media. We love seeing the creativity in our community. Happy writing!

One _____ morning, my friend _____ and I
type of weather name
went to _____ in _____ to get
name of local park where you live
ideas for a school assignment about Wisconsin wildlife. Once
we arrived, we started exploring. We needed to find a few
different ways that plants and animals in our local ecosystem
are connected. The area was full of _____
name a tree that grows in Wisconsin
and the air was cooler under the cover of leaves and
branches. The trees stretched up towards the sky; some
_____ can grow to be _____ feet tall! I looked up,
name of tree number
up, up at the treetops to see if there were any animals
running along the branches, and I did see a _____
name of animal
dart up a tree trunk. The _____ usually eats
name of animal
_____.
list one or two things it eats
“Hey,” I said to my friend. “There’s a connection. The
_____ lives in the _____!”
name of animal name of tree



As we continued on, we came to a spot with _____ and decided to
describe the spot
 have a seat. All of a sudden, something small moved over the surface of a rock and
 down to the ground. I bent over to take a closer look. It was a spider! I could tell
 because it had _____ legs and _____ sections in its body. It was a
number number
 _____. These spiders are hunters and usually eat
spider that lives in Wisconsin
 _____. Their _____ body _____ the other
list one or two animals they eat color blended with OR stood out from
 colors on the forest floor. The spider slowly made its way across the ground and
 soon disappeared under a _____.
something on the ground
 “That’s another connection for our assignment,” _____ said. “Spiders
friend’s name
 eat _____ a lot.”
one or a few spider foods



We kept going. After a few minutes, we came
 to a narrow spot where _____
something big
 was blocking the path. We decided to move it
 because _____. When we
why did you want to move it?
 lifted it up, we saw many critters moving
 around underneath. We saw their _____
number
 legs and _____ sections to their body, so we
number
 knew they were insects. These were
 _____. They eat
name of insects
 _____ but they also sometimes
name something they eat
 get eaten by _____. We also
name one of thier predators
 included that in our ideas about how different
 parts of an ecosystem are connected.

Finally, we decided to go home. On our way back, we saw a big puddle. A big _____ was drinking from it but
name of animal

_____ away as we approached.
type of animal movement

When we looked at the puddle more closely, we saw the larvae of _____.
name of water insect

eat _____ and move
list one or two things they eat
around with their _____.
name body parts they use to move

There were also plants sprouting along the edge of the water. They were _____.
describe their appearance

My friend and I were happy with our ideas for our school assignment. We talked over everything we had found and were a little surprised when we realized how interconnected all those living things are. Part of our assignment was to come up with ways to keep our local ecosystem safe and healthy, so we decided to _____.
list some ways to protect your local ecosystem



The End 