iNaturalist 101

NHM Community Science Program

nhm.org/nature  @natureinLA  nature@nhm.org
iNaturalist 101 Training

- **9:00 am**: Welcome & introductions
- **9:15 am**: NHM and urban nature
- **9:30 am**: iNaturalist mobile app
- **9:45 am**: Taking photos for science - pro tips
- **10:15 am**: Bioblitz of Pleistocene Garden
- **11:00 am**: BREAK
- **11:10 am**: iNaturalist website demo
- **11:30 am**: Reflection, debrief, classroom application
- **12:00 pm**: End of Training
Welcome & Introductions

• **Staff**
  - Richard Smart - NHM/Tar Pits
  - Becca Wilcox - NHM/Tar Pits

• **Who else is in the room?**
  - Name
  - Organization or school you are representing
  - Comfort level with iNaturalist
NHM and Urban Nature

- NHM has begun
  - long-term biodiversity study
  - urban habitats and surrounding natural areas

- Our goals:
  - Increase our knowledge of local plants and animals
  - Involve our local community in this study
Urban Nature Research Center

NHM scientists and educators devoted to exploring, studying, and sharing their discoveries of L.A.’s incredible biodiversity with you!
What is Community Science?

Projects in which volunteers partner with scientists to answer real-world questions.

- Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology
NHM Community Science Projects

- BIOSCAN
- L.A. NATURE MAP
- L.A. SPIDER SURVEY
- RASCALS
- SLIME
- SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SQUIRREL SURVEY
NHM Community Science Projects
Access - To private property through you
Scale - We can study BIG areas
iNaturalist

Social network for naturalists and scientists.

How It Works

1. Record your observations
2. Share with fellow naturalists
3. Discuss your findings
iNaturalist - Photos are Data Points
Taking Photos - For Science
Pro Tips - Taking Photos For Science

- Capture the moment
- Focus
- Different angles
- Shade
- Know your camera
- Looking for wildlife
- Safety
Capture the Moment
Capture the Moment
Capture the Moment
Capture the Moment
Capture the Moment
Capture the Moment
Focus
Take photos of different angles
Shade
Know your camera

• Focus
• Exposure
• Cropping
• Waterproof
How to look for wildlife

• Find habitat
  • Sources of food, water, shelter
How to look for wildlife

• Look up
  • Some animals fly
  • Some climb trees
How to look for wildlife

• Look down or underneath things
  • Some animals spend most of their time on the ground or underground
Safety First!
Safety First - for you
Safety First - for wildlife
What is a bioblitz?

An event that focuses on finding and identifying as many species as possible in a specific area over a limited period of time.
• BioBlitz until 11:00 a.m.
• >5 observations per person
• May work individually or in groups
BREAK

Starting again at 11:10 a.m.
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Multiple Ways to Participate

• **E-mail:** nature@nhm.org

• **Social Media:** #NatureinLA
  
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• **Text Message:** 213-663-6632

• **iNaturalist.org:** website & app
Resources

• help@inaturalist.org
• @inaturalist
  • Facebook
  • Twitter
  • iNaturalist
• iNaturalist.org/pages/help
• iNaturalist google group

• nature@nhm.org
• @natureinla
  • Facebook
  • Twitter
  • iNaturalist
iNaturalist Help

inaturalist.org/pages/help

- How to get started
- Video tutorials
- FAQs
- Teacher’s Guide
- BioBlitz Guide
- Community guidelines
Thank you - Any questions?

Richard Smart
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Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County
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