



THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME!

From the coldest tundra to the hottest desert, animals make their homes in very different places. Whether underwater, underground, high on a mountain or deep in a forest, animals find or make spaces to provide shelter and safety. Some animals, like moles and prairie dogs, dig burrows or tunnels to make their homes underground. Birds and beavers carefully build their homes out of materials they collect in their environment. Other animals, like some spiders and bees, can make their homes using materials they produce from their bodies. Many large animals, like bison and whales, are so big that they don't need to build special homes – their home is wherever they go! No matter where they live, all animals have some sort of place that they can call home.

DAY 2:

ANIMAL HOME HIKE

Animal homes can be found everywhere from the ground to the treetops. Animals make homes to keep themselves safe and provide themselves with shelter or protection from the environment, like rain and heat. Animals make their homes in many different places. Ants, prairie dogs and toads all make burrow homes while many birds and squirrels make nests in trees. Reptiles and beetles might live under rocks. Let's map out what types of animal homes are near us!

Before you start, you should have:

- A pencil, pen or other writing utensil
- A piece of paper

Get started:

1) Start by picking a landmark you can see easily in the place you will explore. This can be a building, the parking lot of a park, a large tree or a flagpole.

2) Draw the landmark on your paper with enough space around it that you can write and draw the different discoveries.

6. Start exploring. Look for evidence of animals and places you think animals might be.

7. Find the animal homes below or discover different ones. Mark on your map where you found them.

Animals homes:

- An anthill
- A burrow
- A nest
- A large rock
- A spider web
- A tree hollow or branch
- Pond or stream
- Something else you found

Things from which an animal can make a home:

- Sticks
- Pebbles
- Dirt
- Leaves
- Grass
- Bark
- Tree
- Something else you found

8. Share with someone about what your found!

- Were there a lot of animal homes in one place?
- Were there places where there were fewer animal homes?
- Why do you think so?

Keep exploring!

Animals make their homes in places where they will be close to other things they need to survive, like food and water. Look around by the animal homes you found. What other things are near these animal homes that they could use to survive?

What did you discover?

Upload a photo or video and tag the Sam Noble Museum on Instagram or Facebook. You can also use the hashtags **#samnoblehome** and **#summerexplorers** to share!

More information on animal homes:

<https://www.nationalgeographic.org/media/animal-homes-and-habitats/>



<https://www.pbs.org/wnet/nature/animal-homes/11674/>



Join Sam Noble Museum educators as they head outside to go on an Animal Home Hike!

<https://youtu.be/TwCB3ckA3DU>

