



# Challenge!

You've been asked to establish a *Nature's Notebook* monitoring program on location in your community for youth and adults.

This monitoring program will include an online site in *Nature's Notebook* that has plant and animal species to monitor. It will

also need to be set up so that other people can find the species you'd like to monitor on a reoccurring basis. You'll need to think of a scientific question you might answer using phenological information gathered through time, since this is the point of creating such a monitoring program in your community.

**Your site is** \_\_\_\_\_

In your group, as you think about what your monitoring location and program will look like, you might want to go outside, do some quick research online, or look through our *How to Observe Handbook*. When you have answered some of these questions, or thought of your own, elect a group spokesperson to share with us what your monitoring site and program looks like.

Here are some questions to help you start your process:

- **What might you need to know before you get started?**
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- **Who might you talk to for ideas on what to do and which species to monitor?**
- **What is your **science question**? Write it as a hypothesis and tell us what information you'd like to gather through your observations.**
- **What plants would you like to observe? What phenophases?**
- **What animals would you like to monitor? What phenophases?**
- **What insects would you like to monitor? What phenophases?**
- **What will the outside space look like when you are done? Use another piece of paper to draft what you think the layout will look like.**
  - Is there a trail? Is there water or a wash?
  - Are there buildings?
  - Who is your audience? What do you need?
  - What resources do you need – plant tags, field guides, permission from site owners?
- **Who will you invite to participate in the monitoring program after it is established?**
- **How will you publicize your program?**
- **What else might you do to get people involved?**