



Nature Study

Each Friday morning, you will go through two of our nature cards. They are labeled in the upper right corner with the corresponding week. These are short, factual cards with images to help your child become familiar with objects in the natural world.

As you progress through our sessions, you may find it handy to keep your past nature cards in a binder for easy reference when your children come across a familiar object. These seeds you are planting will grow into a wonderful garden of knowledge for your children in years to come.

As you explore nature outside your home, watch and listen for newly discovered delights. Most of all, remember...

"Point to some lovely flower or gracious tree, not only as a beautiful work, but as a beautiful thought of God."

~ Charlotte Mason

Nature Study

1

Grey Wolves *Canis lupus*



- Grey wolves are the largest of their kind.
- Wolves are carnivores and eat meat.
- A wolf's sense of smell is about 100 times greater than a human's sense of smell.
- Wolves live in groups called packs. Baby wolves stay with their parent's pack for two years before joining other packs or starting their own.

1

Russian Sage *Perovskia atriplicifolia*



- The Russian sage is tall, airy, and lavender in color.
- These plants need full sun and minimal water.
- The leaves of the Russian sage are slightly toxic, though you can eat the flowers.
- The crushed flowers of this plant can be used to make dye.
- The plant is said to have a strong scent that smells like a cross between lavender and sage.

2

Siberian Tiger *Panthera tigris altaica*



- The Siberian tiger is almost extinct. There are only around 500 left in the wild.
- No two tigers have the same striped pattern - just like a human's fingerprints!
- Because of the dangers of extinction, there have been new laws created to prevent poaching and hunting of tigers.
- Siberian tigers eat several different species of animals and hunt often.

2

Chamomile *Matricaria chamomilla*



- Chamomile is Russia's national flower.
- Its name comes from words meaning "earth apple" in Greek.
- Chamomile flowers are known for their medical benefits and herbal uses.
- Chamomile has been used by the Romans and Greeks to help wounds heal quickly.

3

Siberian Husky *Canis lupus familiaris*



- Siberian huskies originated from north-eastern Siberia.
- Siberian huskies are work dogs and are used for sledding.
- Their thick double coats make them well-suited for colder climates.
- Huskies are known for howling, not barking like other dogs.
- Siberian huskies have been featured in movies like *Eight Below*, *Balto*, and *Snow Buddies*.

3

Siberian Peashrub *Caragana arborescens*



- The Siberian peashrub grows best in dry climates.
- In their first year, they can grow 1-3 feet.
- Siberian peashrubs can grow up to 18" high.
- They have a large root system and are sometimes used to control erosion.
- Siberian peashrubs have seed pods that pop open when they dry, which releases their seeds.

4

Wolverines *Gulo gulo*



- The Siberian wolverine's nickname is the "skunk bear."
- Wolverines are members of the weasel family.
- Despite their small size, wolverines can hunt large prey during wintertime, when they have a speed advantage.
- Wolverines are about 14-18" tall and weigh between 24 and 36 pounds.
- Wolverines are omnivores and eat plants and meat.

4

Siberian Fawn Lily *Erythronium sibiricum*



- The Siberian fawn lily is a perennial in the liliaceae family.
- Another nickname for this flower is the Siberian trout lily.
- This flower is most often found in Siberia, but it can also be found in Kazakhstan or Mongolia.
- It grows in altitudes of 1100-2500 meters.
- The Siberian fawn lily's preferred environments are subalpine meadows, forests, and thickets.