

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Assignment

### Natural History of the Palouse

In Spokane, we like to say that we are “Near Nature, Near Perfect”, and nothing could be closer to the truth. The river, the falls, the lakes, and even the dry rock outcroppings all create a beautiful landscape that we can enjoy.

Your summer assignment is to enjoy it ☺ Go explore the world around you, and enjoy everything that nature has to offer! This summer assignment activity is to help you appreciate your city and landscape just a little bit more than you may already, and maybe start to develop a scientist’s eye!

This summer, I want you to find a “Sit Spot”, somewhere close to your house. This should be a spot that is as close to “Natural” as you can get. It might be a park, the river, or even just your back yard! To give you an idea of what I mean, watch this video: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bjZLsqhvKH4&ab\\_channel=WildEarth](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bjZLsqhvKH4&ab_channel=WildEarth)

#### Directions:

1. Find a sit spot. Make it **your** sit spot. A spot that is just for you, and special to you.
2. Make sure your parents know that you are going out and they know where you are. If it’s a spot far away, maybe bring them along!
3. Don’t bring anything but a water bottle to your sit spot. No phones, no ear buds, no pencils, no notebooks, no books. Just you.
4. Use all of your senses to sit and observe your spot for 15 minutes. What do you see? Are there any flowers growing? What kinds of birds do you hear? What do you smell? How does it feel? Is it dry and crunchy or soft and pillowy?
5. When you come home, use this assignment as a journal to write down any of the observations that stood out to you.
6. Try to do this at least every week, and if you want, multiple times a week. Pick a day and time that works best and make sure to go out and spend at least 15 minutes at a time there.

**Bonus! Each time you go to your sit spot, take a small souvenir. Nothing major; just something that stood out to you that day. Put it in an egg carton and keep it every week. Bring in the egg carton on the first day of school to share!**

### Sit Spot Journal

#### Week 1 Observations:

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**Week 2 Observations:**

**Week 3 Observations:**

**Week 4 Observations:**

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**Week 5 Observations:**

**Week 6 Observations:**

**Week 7 Observations:**

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**Week 8 Observations:**

**Week 9 Observations:**

**Week 10 Observations:**