NATURE WORDS

SESAME STREET EXPLORES NATIONAL PARKS

INSTRUCTIONS: Want to talk like a park ranger? Use this vocabulary sheet to help your child learn and use new nature vocabulary. Use these words to talk about and describe your explorations with nature in your national park, local park, or backyard!

AMPHIBIAN: An animal, such as a frog, toad, salamander, or newt, that:

- goes through a big change called a metamorphosis
- lives part of its life on land breathing through its skin and part of it in the water breathing through its gills
- has thin, moist skin, four legs, and a backbone

ARACHNID: A small animal, such as a spider, that has eight legs.

BINOCULARS: A tool that helps you get a closer look at things that are far away.

CAMOUFLAGE: To disguise or hide by blending into the background.

COMPARE: To figure out if things are the same or different.

DECIDUOUS: A tree that loses its leaves once a year.

GARDEN: A place where plants, flowers, fruits, and vegetables are grown.

HABITAT: A place where animals live and can find food, water, and a place to sleep.

HIBERNATE: When animals sleep for a very long time from winter until spring, when it's warm and easy to find food again.

INSECT: a small animal that has six legs, two antennae, and usually two pairs of wings, such as flies, crickets, mosquitoes, beetles, butterflies, and bees.

INVESTIGATE: To do things that will help you find the answer to your question.

JOURNAL: A book used to keep track of observations through writings, drawings, or photographs.

MAGNIFY: To make something look bigger.

METAMORPHOSIS: When something goes through a really big change, like when a caterpillar changes into a butterfly.

MIGRATION: When animals move because the seasons change.

NATURE: Plants, animals, and other things outside that are not made by people.

OBSERVE: To use your senses to find out more about something.

POLLINATE: When bees spread pollen from one plant, flower, fruit, or vegetable to another to help make more flowers grow.

SEASON: A time of the year that is characterized by a certain change in weather. There are four seasons in a year: winter, spring, summer and fall. In winter it's cold and snowy, in spring it's warm and rainy, in summer it's hot, and in fall it's cool and windy. Depending on where you live the seasons might feel different.

SENSES: What we use to experience everything around us. There are five of them: sight, taste, touch, smell, and hearing.

TEXTURE: The way something feels.

TOOL: Something used to help do a specific task, such as a magnifying glass, a shovel or a flashlight.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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