

FOR THE PARENT ↓

Backyard

SPY KIT.

AGES 5-10

~60 MINS

NO PREP!

Hand this to your early riser, point them to a pencil, and go make your coffee.

This morning they're a **Field Agent** — a backyard spy whose job is to observe, record, and report what no one else notices. *Their* job is to pay attention. *Yours* is to let them.

★ THE MAGIC MOVE

Print this the night before. Leave it on the kitchen table. They find it waiting in the morning, and it feels like it arrived just for them. *That* surprise is the whole point.

WHAT'S IN THIS KIT →

1 Field Agent Mission Briefing**3** Living Things Spotted Table**5** Field Guide Entry (stretch)**2** Morning Observation Log**4** 60-Second Sounds Challenge**6** The Catbird Question



Good morning, Agent.

Your mission begins NOW.

The best spies don't wait for stuff to happen — they go LOOKING. This morning, you're going looking. You are a **Field Agent** for Catbird, and Catbird agents notice things other people miss.

YOUR EQUIPMENT ↓



YOUR TERRITORY

A window, a porch, or a backyard — wherever you

★ STILL DARK?

EVEN BETTER. Watch the light change while you

Morning Obs Log

1 Weather Report

Step outside for 10 sec — or peek out the window. What does this morning feel like?

TEMPERATURE

Freezing Cold Cool Warm

SKY

Clear Cloudy Foggy Rainy

WIND

Still A little Windy

LIGHT

Dark Dawn Bright

Outside smells like: _____

2 Living Things Spotted

Birds, bugs, squirrels, plants moving in the wind. Record what you see.

WHAT I SAW	WHERE EXACTLY	WHAT IT WAS DOING

3 Draw the best one

The most interesting thing you saw. Draw it carefully.



4 60-Second Sounds

Eyes closed. Stay still. Listen for 60 seconds.

I HEARD...

_____ and _____

and _____

5 Something I've never noticed before

★ THE MOST INTERESTING THING I OBSERVED TODAY



OPTIONAL • IF YOU WANT MORE

The Field Guide Challenge.

Real spies keep field guides — detailed records of everything they discover. Make ONE official entry for something you spotted today.

NAME OF THING (MAKE ONE UP IF YOU DON'T KNOW)

DRAW IT — BIG, DETAILED, MESSY IS FINE

Large dashed box for drawing with a yellow star at the top-left and a red star at the bottom-right. The text "draw here" is centered inside the box.

DESCRIBE IT — NO "PRETTY" OR "COOL" ALLOWED

IT LOOKS LIKE

IT SOUNDS LIKE

IT MOVES BY

WHY I THINK IT DOES WHAT IT DOES

ONE QUESTION I STILL HAVE

★ THE CATBIRD QUESTION ★

For the parent — ask at breakfast, when they come back in.

If you came back to observe this exact same spot every morning for a whole year — what do you think would be different about it in December?

There's no right answer. Think out loud together. Let them go wherever they go — weather, animals, light, seasons, themselves. Listen and ask one follow-up: *"What makes you think that?"*

THEIR ANSWER — WRITE IT DOWN IF YOU WANT TO REMEMBER

That's what a catbird does — watches,