

DEAR NATURE LETTER

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ACTIVITY: WRITING A DEAR NATURE LETTER

1 Watch the video of ECO educators describing how to write a Dear Nature letter to gain an understanding of how it is done.*

*if you do not have a device, skip this step!

2 **Make observations** by sitting comfortably in a spot where you can view nature. In this time, make observations using your senses of smell, hearing, touch, and sight, and write them down. Be sure to take note of how you feel, too.

3 **Write a letter** to nature using the parts of a formal letter: a greeting, the date, body of the letter, and your signature. Use a prompt to help guide you, or write a poem, short story, reflection on something you've read, or draw illustrations!

4 **Share your letter** with your classroom teacher. If you use social media, post it and tag @ecology4kids and use the hashtag #exploringwitheco !

WHAT YOU WILL NEED

- A place where you can observe nature. This can be outdoors in a yard, a quiet spot on the sidewalk, or even looking out the window!
- A Dear Nature letter template, or any plain piece of paper
- Something to write with
- A hard surface to write on, if going outdoors
- (If available) a device to watch the Dear Nature instructional video

WRITING PROMPTS

- How are the different elements of nature (water, sunlight, plants, animals) interacting?
- What do you wonder or want to learn more about?
- Where is your favorite place outdoors? Why?
- How does nature make you feel?

PROMPTS IF YOU READ AN ARTICLE ON HUMAN IMPACT

- How did the article you read make you feel?
- What scientific evidence does the author use?
- What unanswered questions do you have?
- How have recent changes in human behavior impacted the environment?