**Nature School – Making a Nature Journal**

One of the most important things that scientists do is to **make and record observations**. In Nature School this week, you are going to make a Nature Journal which is a place where you can make and record your observations. A Nature Journal can be used for many things. You can use your Nature Journal to:

* Sketch, colour, paint pictures of living things that you see
* Label your pictures
* Record your observations
* Write about nature – lists, poems, stories
* Make maps
* Record measurements

To start, you will need to make a journal. Making a nature journal is just like making a booklet. You will need to get a few papers (5 papers would be a good size). You can fold the papers and staple them in the middle or keep them full-sized. You will also need a cover. You could use paper, the brown paper from a paper bag, or the cardboard from a cereal box. Tie or staple your pages together. Once you have put the journal together, you can decorate the cover. Decorate it with things that you might find in nature.

Now that the journal is ready, you can start using it. Take it outside or to a window and pick something to observe. You might choose:

* A tree or plant
* An interesting leaf or flower
* An animal (maybe you will look at birds like last week)
* An insect

Take your time and really observe the thing that you choose. Draw what you see with as much detail as possible. Write down your observations. What are all the things that you notice. Do you have any questions? Write them down also.