

# “Make a Space” for Wildlife in Your Community:

## Nature and Technology

Utilize the following apps to dig in deeper with your students!

Accessible to Spanish speakers by having the phone on the Spanish setting.

- **Seek by iNaturalist:** *“Use the power of image recognition technology to identify the plants and animals all around you.”*
  - Take pictures of an unidentified animal or plant.
  - Select **View Species** to learn more about your findings.
  - Select **Menu: Achievements** to see your badge collection grow or **My Observations** to see all that you have.
- **iNaturalist:** *“A platform where you can record, share, and discuss your observations of nature. You can also contribute to biodiversity science, join projects, and learn from other naturalists.”*
  - Browse through local wildlife observations under **Explore**, and use **Observe** to add to this list.
  - *“Projects let you pool your observations with other people on iNaturalist. Whether you're starting a citizen science effort or keeping tabs on the birds in your neighborhood, Projects are the way to go.”*
    - Start a Project on the website under **Community**, and contribute observations on the app under **Projects**

# “Make a Space” for Wildlife in Your Community:

## Native Bees

Use [this link](#) for an introduction to Colorado’s native bees.

## Setting Our Wildlife Up for Success

Use the following tips while creating and installing your insect hotel.

- Use untreated wood.
- Reeds are a great option. Tubes should not have splinters. Additionally, the less glue and tape used, the better. Removing chemical and physical barriers will keep insects safe and healthy.
- Paper materials may retain moisture and promote fungal growth. Plastic materials will often not be used by bees.
- Adding a roof may prevent weather damage.
- Avoid painting as this may deter insects. A natural looking home will be the most inviting.
- Secure the structure 6 feet off the ground, facing south for warmth.
- Place near sources of pollen. Additionally, you can plant foliage used by the insects you are trying to attract.
- Set the hotel up at the beginning of spring to allow hibernators to find a home after emerging.
- Visitors will appreciate dark tunnels, so having only one side of the tunnel exposed is preferable.
- For bees, try to make tunnels 5-6 inches deep, long enough for them to lay several eggs. Each species has a preference for a specific diameter. Leaf cutter bees prefer diameters of 6mm while mason bees use 8mm.
- Disinfect the hotel and replace tubing in the early spring after previous hibernating tenants have emerged.
- Small hotels spread throughout the area may be better than one large hotel. A single communal hotel may allow for diseases or parasites to spread.