



LEARN ANYWHERE!

A Family Guide to Using
Nat Geo Education Resources

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Where education meets exploration
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Families: Get ready to explore the world!

National Geographic has many resources to take your kids and family on a global journey, from any seat in the house. We provide multiple ways for young people to explore the world – from live connections with National Geographic Explorers to fun ways to learn about science, technology, history, and more. National Geographic is home to the world’s most engaging research and science, all combined with our hallmark photo and video storytelling. Our resources can be accessed from any device and can be used independently or collaboratively with a family member.

Start your exploration here! Click on the links suggested for different kinds of activities for specific ages to get a sense of what we offer. You can then take a deeper dive by reading the Tips for Using National Geographic Resources to Learn Anywhere and Ways for Families to Explore with Nat Geo sections of this guide, and explore resources on your own using the How to Search our Resource Library suggestions.

FAMILY GUIDE TO NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC EDUCATION RESOURCES

Where Education Meets
Exploration

FAMILIES EXPLORE TOGETHER

[Explorer Classroom](#)
[Citizen Science](#)
[Kahoot! Quizzes](#)

KIDS EXPLORE ON THEIR OWN

[Videos and Interactives](#) (ages 4-8)
[Videos and Interactives](#) (ages 8+)
[Citizen Science](#) (all ages)
[Kahoot! Quizzes](#) (all ages)

MEET EXPLORERS LIVE ONLINE

[Explorer Classroom](#) (ages 4-8)
[Explorer Classroom](#) (ages 9-14+)

LEARN ABOUT THE WORLD

[Explorer Magazine](#) (ages 5-12)
[Read and Learn](#) (ages 10+)
[Maps and Infographics](#) (ages 4-8)
[Maps and Infographics](#) (ages 8+)

TIPS FOR USING NAT GEO RESOURCES

to learn anywhere

Every family is figuring out how learning will work this year. National Geographic resources are flexible, inspiring, and full of that exciting “wow!” factor. Because our resources are free and easily accessible from any device, you will find many different ways to use them. Here are some tips to help you include National Geographic resources into your childrens’ journeys. First up, bookmark the [Learn Anywhere](#) page on your computer for easy access!

WORKING COLLABORATIVELY WITH YOUR KIDS

If you and your homebound students are working together, or if you have several kids collaborating, here are some ways to include National Geographic resources in daily exploration.

Good for all ages:

- **Create a map that tells a story.** Do you and your kids want to explore the world By theme? By country? By topic? By particular animals, or habitats, or environments? Check out our [mapping resources](#) to decide what kind of map you want to create, and then target specific National Geographic resources to add all kinds of information. If your children already have a map from school, use National Geographic resources to add to those topics. Learning about volcanoes in school? Add more learning about [natural disasters](#) through our resources.
- **Plan a year-long exploration.** Maybe a journey around the world? Be inspired by Explorer Paul Salopek’s [Out of Eden Walk](#) as he walks the path of the history of human migration, and use National Geographic resources to explore the habitats, animals, and people you’ll meet along the way.





- **Create scavenger hunts.** Ask kids to find out all they can about the life of bees, or which routes birds take while migrating, or changing sea levels, or how to hack DNA, or how the water cycle works. They can research in our [Resource Library](#) and [Explorer magazine](#), do some scientific data collection in the backyard or on the sidewalk, and watch real-time exploration videos. Ask them to collect photos, infographics, videos, maps, or other information and share it at the dinner table, or on a family video chat.

Check out these age-specific collections for more ideas:

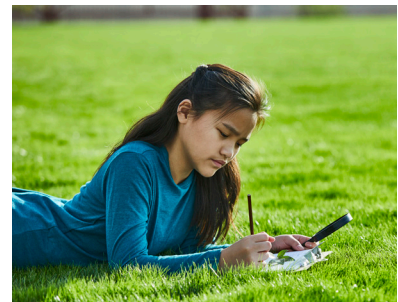
- [Grades K-2](#)
- [Grades 3-5](#)
- [Grades 6-12](#)

KIDS WORKING INDEPENDENTLY

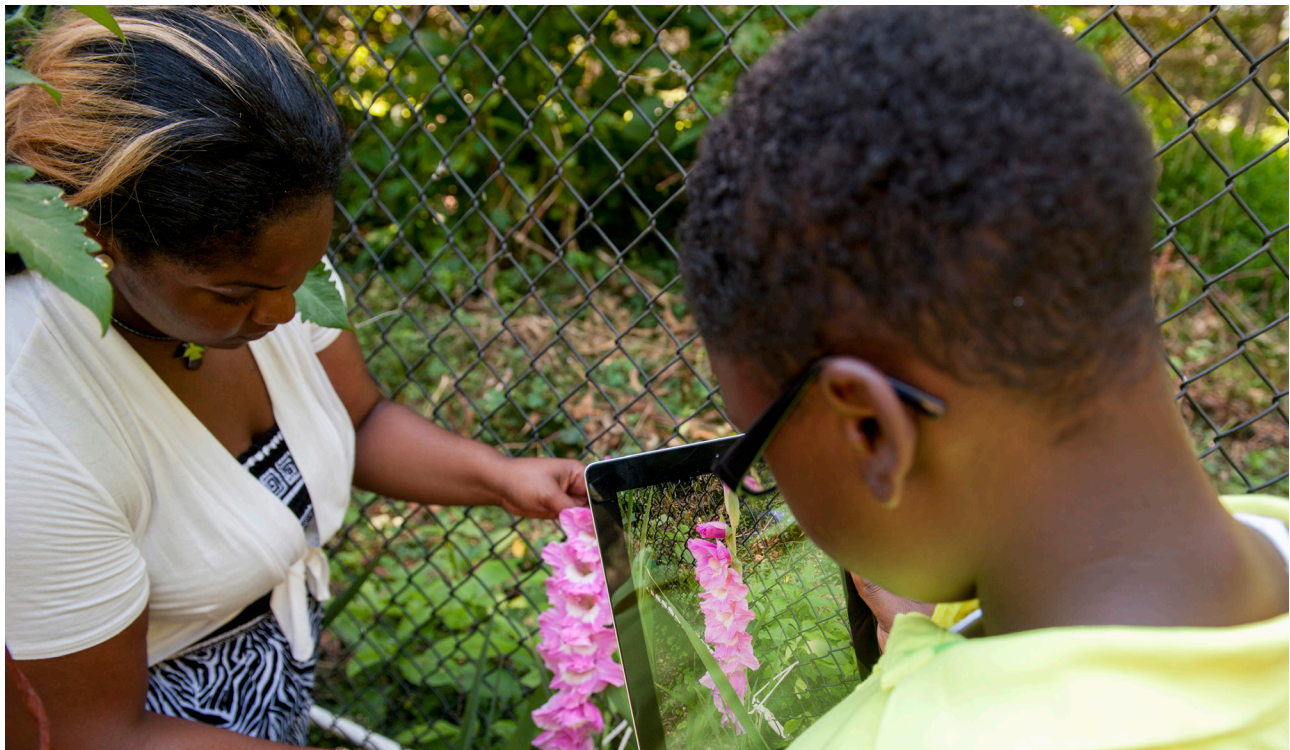
Lots of learning happens independently, and sometimes you'll really need it to. Children of any age can use National Geographic resources on their own to engage in exciting science, research, and exploration. Here are some tips for setting your kids up for independent success.

Good for all ages:

- **Use simple learning supports** like the ones teachers use in class to help your kids make the most of their research and exploration. You don't need anything special to use these organizers, just a piece of paper or an online writing document. These will help your kids slow down and think about what they are learning, and the formatting provides helpful reminders of how to explore knowledge and information.
 - A *Know/Want to Know/Learned Chart* works well for anything. Before engaging, children think about what they already know and what they want to know about a topic. After they explore, they reflect on what they learned about that topic.
 - *I Notice, I Wonder, I Learned, or See, Think, Wonder* are similar organizers that work for any type of exploration.
- **Set up a daily and/or weekly schedule or calendar.** Include National Geographic exploration that can be done independently on the schedule. For example, [Explorer Classroom](#) – a way for your kids to meet real time with our Explorers – happens on the same days and same times weekly. Add those to your calendar. All of the [citizen science](#) exploration can be done independently (with a phone) so that, too, can be added to the plan. Add [Kahoots! quizzes](#) to your kids' plan and they will rack up those learning badges!



- **Curate playlists for learners.** You might use a playlist platform such as [Padlet](#) or [Google Jamboard](#). For example, if your child loves wolves or volcanoes, set up a playlist and link National Geographic [wolf videos](#) or [volcano videos](#). When your kid goes off to learn on their own, they'll be able to go directly to those resources.
- **Download free citizen science apps** on a mobile phone and have your kids identify plants and animals in their own backyard or neighborhood park. [Seek](#) is good for younger children (under 13), and [iNaturalist](#) for older kids through adults. (More info about citizen science activities in the “Kids Explore on their Own” section below.)
- **Teach your children how to navigate Nat Geo’s education site.** Show them how to search the [Resource Library](#) using the grades, subjects, and resource types filters, where to go to sign up for live [Explorer Classroom](#) sessions, or how to access [Explorer magazine](#).
- **Bookmark National Geographic web pages** so your kids can find them quickly on their own. Make sure to bookmark the [Learn Anywhere](#) page so they can find it easily.



HOW TO SEARCH THE RESOURCE LIBRARY



The National Geographic [Resource Library](#) is home to thousands of free resources, including videos, infographics, maps, and articles, that will engage your child and spark their curiosity about the world and how it works. It's free and easy to use!


TELL US WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR

From the [Home Page](#) of the National Geographic society education site enter a topic or subject matter you'd like to search, like "Polar Bears" or "climate change" (don't worry, search terms aren't case sensitive) and hit the search icon to see everything we have on that topic.

REFINE YOUR SEARCH THREE WAYS:

- Go to the **Resources** pull-down menu to select the format you want your information in, like videos, or photographs, or articles...etc. Select as many as you want!
- Select particular grade levels under the **for all grades** pull-down menu.
- Select specific subjects under the **in any subject** pull-down menu.

SAVE IT!

When you find resources you like, don't forget to sign up to save resources for later, which will enable you to bookmark any resource and save it to your own collection by using the  symbol on the top right-hand corner of every page in the library.

1. MEET NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC EXPLORERS LIVE ONLINE

Join Explorer Classroom – a live YouTube show that connects young people with National Geographic Explorers around the world – to hear behind-the-scenes stories and interact in real time with a National Geographic Explorer. Each Explorer Classroom has an event guide which will help you get the most out of each session. Find upcoming events in the [Explorer Classroom schedule](#). You'll be able to register for a chance to ask your questions live on camera, or type them into our moderated YouTube chat bar.

To watch past Explorer Classroom events, or to learn more about our Explorers, [use this link](#).

AGES 4 - 8

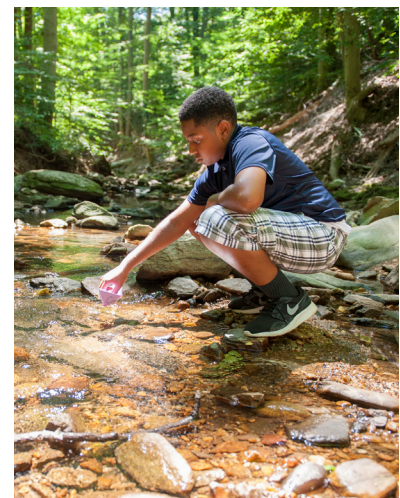
Explorer Classroom events for the youngest children are about 30 minutes long and come with an event guide to help them develop specific questions for the Explorer. Past events have included “Exploding Oozing Lava,” “The World of Reptiles,” “Digging Through Egyptian History,” “Whale Families,” and more! [Find Explorer Classroom events here](#).

AGES 9-14

Explorer Classroom events for upper elementary and middle school kids are about 45 minutes long and come with an event guide with background information and extension activities to help make the most of the experience. Past events have included “Crocodile Conservation,” “Understanding Mount Everest,” “Photographing the World’s Species,” “Global Deep-Sea Research,” and more! [Find Explorer Classroom events here](#).

2. KIDS EXPLORE ON THEIR OWN

Around the world people of all ages engage in citizen science—participating in projects in which volunteers and scientists work together to answer real-world questions. Much of this work is conducted close to home, sometimes online and sometimes in your own backyard or even in your kitchen, with guidance from professional scientists and using established science protocols and tools. Becoming a citizen scientist is a great way to learn more about scientific processes and concepts while contributing to authentic research.



National Geographic supports several citizen science projects that kids can be a part of. All these resources are free to download and use.

AGES 5 - 13

Identify plants and animals in your own backyard! [Seek](#) is a free app for younger children that uses the power of image recognition technology to identify plants, animals, and other organisms in their environment. It also lets users earn badges for observing different species of plants and participate in monthly observation challenges. It doesn't automatically share the location of your observations, so it protects the privacy and safety of younger children. [Seek](#) is a great tool to use during a nature walk, or a stroll through the neighborhood. Check out the [Seek user guide](#) to get started.

Help scientists and conservationists save wildlife! You can participate in citizen science even when you can't get outside. [Instant Wild](#) shares images and videos from cameras at conservation sites all around the world for you to identify. By identifying the animals in each image, you can contribute to conservation and make a positive impact on wildlife. Available both as a smartphone app and website, [Instant Wild](#) mobilizes citizen scientists to scale up important animal monitoring work.

AGES 13+



Identify wildlife and connect to scientists and naturalists! In addition to all the resources listed above, [iNaturalist](#) is a great tool to use with older kids. [iNaturalist](#) is a free app and website that help you identify organisms you see or hear and connects you with a community of over a million scientists and naturalists who can help you learn more about nature. By recording and sharing your observations, you'll create research-quality data for scientists working to better understand and protect nature. [iNaturalist](#) isn't appropriate for children under 13 because of privacy concerns; [Seek](#) is a better option for younger naturalists. The [iNaturalist Teacher's Guide](#) is a very helpful resource even if you're using [iNaturalist](#) with your own kids.

WATCH AND LEARN

Our Resource Library houses over 700 videos! Covering topics from climate change to ancient Greece, our videos feature National Geographic Explorers and their exciting work. Let your child loose to browse through our video offerings on topics that interest them [by selecting 'Video' from the Content Types list on the left on this search page.](#)

Here are some curated video collections to get your young explorers started:

- [Learn from Our Explorers!](#): This collection shows National Geographic Explorers in action observing natural phenomena and collaborating with others to achieve their goals.
- [Modern Explorer](#): Follow National Geographic Explorer Alizé Carrère and Lindblad Expeditions Naturalist Tom Ritchie as they discover what it means to be a Modern Explorer in this video series.
- [360° videos](#): This collection of 360° videos can be viewed through YouTube with any type of device (computer, tablet, phone) with internet connectivity. Choose any topic and get ready to immerse yourself.

3. FAMILIES EXPLORE TOGETHER

Test your family members' knowledge on different subjects by playing our [Kahoot! quizzes](#) together. Kahoot! is a game-based learning platform that can be played on any device and you can play as individual contestants, or as teams.

Conduct a family BioBlitz! Use our [BioBlitz resources](#) to learn how to conduct a biodiversity survey in your yard, along a sidewalk, or in a local park. A BioBlitz consists of counting as many species as possible in a designated area during a short period of time, and you can do it with your family, or a small group of kids. [This activity](#) provides instructions for how to conduct a BioBlitz in your neighborhood using maps, data sheets, and field guides. Your younger children can also use the [Seek](#) app to help with identifications and keep track of what they see.

Become a family of citizen scientists! National Geographic works with SciStarter.org to help you find other citizen science projects for your family to participate in, track your contributions, and provide feedback. SciStarter's database includes over 3,000 projects and events that are searchable by location, scientific topic, and age level. Start by visiting the [National Geographic portal](#) on SciStarter and then use the [Project Finder](#) to filter for more projects based on your family's interests.

Watch an [Explorer Classroom](#) event together with your children. Use the accompanying guide to do a little research about the featured Explorer and their work before the event, and come up with a couple of questions you want to ask as a family. Use the suggested follow-up questions and activities to spark a lively dinner table discussion, or a "show and tell" of what was learned to share with all family members.

4. READ AND LEARN ABOUT AMAZING THINGS IN THE WORLD

EXPLORER MAGAZINE (AGES 5-12)

Walk through a window to the world with our free digital [Explorer](#) magazine that is available at six different reading levels (described below). Winner of Learning® Magazine's 2019 Teachers' Choice Award, Explorer magazine helps kids learn about cool animals, habitats, countries, and people from around the globe. New this year – Explorer magazine in Spanish!

You'll find the appropriate magazine for your child by using the [drop-down menu](#).

There you'll see:

- Scout (Kindergarten; ages 5-6)
- Voyager (Grade 1; ages 6-7)
- Pioneer (Grade 2; ages 7-8)
- Trailblazer (Grade 3; ages 8-9)
- Pathfinder (Grade 4; ages 9-10)
- Adventurer (Grades 5-6; ages 10-12)

EXPLORER MAGAZINE TIPS

Use the Adventurer or Pathfinder editions for family read alouds. Your children can listen and learn with you, and then re-read the same content at their own reading level.

Kids can practice new reading skills by reading different magazine editions.

Siblings, friends, and family members can all learn about the same content at the same time at their own reading levels. Encourage your young explorers to do joint research – and explore the world together while reading at their own pace.

READINGS FROM THE RESOURCE LIBRARY (AGES 9 AND UP)

Browse our selection of over [1,000 articles!](#)

Delve into learning through our [Encyclopedic Entries](#) - kids can research and explore hundreds of topics, from [Globalization](#) to [Erosion](#).

Articles are available for curious minds who want to dive deeper into specific topics like [The Influence of Climate Change on Environmental Events](#) or learn more about their favorite Explorer, like [Heather Koldewey](#).

[Leveled Articles](#): Browse over 150 articles that offer different reading levels to provide the best experience for your child. Once you have clicked into a leveled article, select the appropriate text level at the top of the article. Practice toggling between reading levels here: [The Great Pacific Garbage Patch](#).

CITIZEN SCIENCE[Seek](#)[Seek user guide](#)[BioBlitz](#)[Instant Wild](#)[SciStarter.org](#)[iNaturalist](#)[iNaturalist teachers guide](#)[Citizen Science curated collection of resources](#)**EXPLORERS**[Learn from Our Explorers!](#)[Modern Explorer](#)[Out of Eden Walk](#)**EXPLORER CLASSROOM**[Explorer Classroom home page](#)[Explorer Classroom, ages 4-8](#)[Explorer Classroom, ages 9-14](#)[Explorer Classroom YouTube channel \(for archived events\)](#)**EXPLORER MAGAZINE**[Explorer magazine, ages 5-12](#)**MAPPING RESOURCES**[Mapping collections](#)[Printable MapMaker Kits and activities](#)[Interactive mapping](#)[Interpreting Maps - curated collection of resources](#)**NAT GEO LEARN ANYWHERE**[Learn Anywhere home page](#)**RESOURCE LIBRARY**[Resource Library - main search page](#)[360° videos](#)[Kahoot! learning games](#)[Articles](#)[Encyclopedic entries](#)[Leveled articles](#)**Curated collections:**

- [Videos and Interactives \(Ages 4-8\)](#)
- [Videos and Interactives \(Ages 8+\)](#)
- [Maps and Infographics \(Ages 4-8\)](#)
- [Maps and Infographics \(Ages 8+\)](#)
- [Read and Learn \(Ages 10+\)](#)
- [Learn at Home: K-2](#)
- [Learn at Home: 3-5](#)
- [Learn at Home: 6-12](#)