

# Fun Activities

## Tree Hugger Game

Before you hike, give a short lesson on the different trees located on the Baille Ard Nature Trail. While hiking, call out a type of tree. Each child has to find (and hug) a tree of that type.

## Hiker's Bingo

Have your kids brainstorm things you might find on a hike: an oak tree, a robin, a squirrel, a bridge, etc. Turn those ideas into bingo cards, then take them on your hike and play Bingo as you go.

## Trash Collection

While hiking, teach your kids about responsibility, even when other people might not. Nobody likes seeing aluminum cans, plastic bags, granola bar wrappers, and other human artifacts on beautiful trails. Because so many hikers take great pains to "leave no trace", it's upsetting to find litter on the trail. Designate a special hike to clean up the trails that you love. You can reward children for collecting a certain amount of trash. Talk to your children about "leave no trace" principles and why they are important.

## Finding colours in nature

One of the most wondrous parts of our natural world is the vibrant colours found in plants, animals, water, and the sky. You can use phenomenon such as the leaves changing to your advantage. Let your children take turns picking a colour, and everyone must find a set number of things of that colour. The winner picks the next colour.

## Ideas for Fun Trail Activities

- Find an animal's home.
- Find three different leaves.
- Find four different shades of green.
- Find something that smells pretty.
- Stop. Listen. What do you hear?
- Try to pick up 2 pieces of litter.
- Rub the bark of a nearby tree. Is it smooth or rough?
- What is the tallest thing around you?
- Look around and try to find a bird's nest.

Note: These hiking activities are meant as a guide to get your imagination rolling. Please tweak them to your audience and add your own ideas.

