

# STAYING SAFE



**Here are some things to keep in mind when exploring outside:**

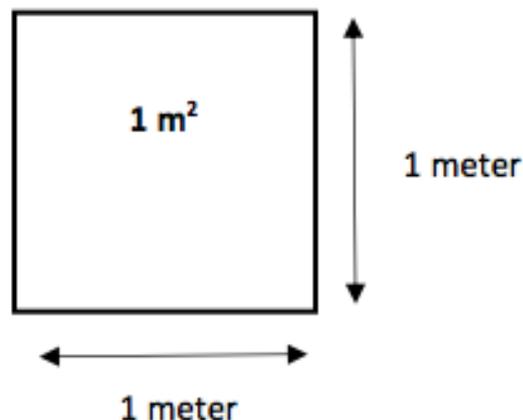
- Stay home if you feel sick, if you have been in contact with anyone who has tested positive, or if you are under self-quarantine.
- Practice physical distancing and best hygiene practices when you see other people in nature.
- Bring your own mask, hat, snacks, water, sunscreen, and bug spray. Make sure to bring back any garbage you have so you can properly get rid of it at home.
- Tell someone where you are going and when you will be back.
- Watch wildlife from a safe distance and do not try to handle them.
- Do not pick any wildflowers or plants - please leave nature for everyone to enjoy.
- Wear long sleeves and long pants if walking in a wooded area. Learn more about tick safety: <https://www.ontarioparks.com/parkblog/how-to-protect-yourself-from-ticks/>

# ACTIVITY #2: LIFE IN A SQUARE

*In this activity, you will discover the diversity of living (biotic) species and non-living (abiotic) factors in a specific spot.*

Find an area that seems to have a lot of biodiversity present. Your area should be about 1-meter (m) square in size.

On the next page, draw a top view of the area. Draw in any plants, rocks, insects, pollution, leaves, and other features you find.



Kneel next to one side of your spot, and look around carefully. As you draw what you find, label what you can using your identification guides.

If you do not know the name of a species, snap a picture and try figuring it online using a website like [iNaturalist](https://www.inaturalist.org/).

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Time:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Temperature (use your thermometer):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Weather conditions:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Follow-up questions:

1. How would you describe the diversity of your spot: high or low?

2. What non-living (abiotic) factors might affect what lives in this spot?