Here are some fun ideas for making the most of this activity!

- Collect seeds and leaves from different parts of a park. Next, use your detective skills to identify which tree or plant each leaf or seed came from.

- Checkout field guides from the public library. We recommend this one for identifying trees.

- Use the iNaturalist app to help you identify a wild plant.

- Play Old Oak with some friends (it’s like Old Maid, but use pairs of leaves you find in the park instead of cards!)

- Smell the bark or needles of different trees in the park. Pick which one has your favorite smell.

- When leaves turn colors in the fall, use their different colors to make beautiful leaf mandala designs on the ground.

- Make a leaf splatter print: Tape a leaf onto watercolor paper. Dip an old toothbrush in watercolors and rub the bristles of the toothbrush along the edge of the leaf. Peel off the tape and leaf to reveal the completed design.

- Find an acorn top, walnut shell, or empty milkweed pod. Turn them into boats and race them down a stream against your friend, brother, or sister’s boat.

- Find a milkweed seed pod filled with their fluffy seeds. Release the seeds from the pod and try to keep the seeds off the ground as long as you can using only your breath to blow them up into the air.

- Make your own field guide. Photograph or draw wildflowers, trees, or seeds. Use field guides or iNaturalist to help you identify them. Glue photos onto pages of a notebook with their identifying names. Share it with others!

- Autumn is the best time to search parks for horse chestnuts. Once you find some, gather friends to play Conkers, a game played by children in Britain.

- Color in pages and pages of plants native to Utah. Next go search for them in a nearby park.

- Search in cool, damp places for different colors of moss. Feel how soft and gentle it is to your touch. Boulders can be good spots to find moss, so search for moss as you Climb a rock.

Join in on the adventure by visiting Trails & Natural Lands to find more info, like fun Independent Adventures activity sheets, and even learn about how to pickup your own SLC Children’s Outdoor Bill of Rights Journal!