

## Joshua's Trust Discovery Challenge for Families & Individuals

Join us in a challenge this fall to explore some of Joshua's Trust trails and learn about their diversity of plants and animals!

The Challenge will run from September 1 to December 1, 2023.

Explore eight different trails and complete entries for each – try to identify at least one member for each of two of the groups listed. Every entry should be different, for a total of at least 16 different species. The groups are:

Group 1: plants, fungi and algae

Group 2: amphibians, reptiles and fish

Group 3: birds and mammals

Group 4: invertebrate animals (e.g., insects, spiders, ticks, worms)





There are many resources to help with identification including phone apps and your local library and bookstore. Some free phone apps are:

Merlin (birds), I Naturalist – especially “Seek”, Visual Look-up, Google Lens (please note that some also have paid as well as free versions).

Record your findings on the form provided. You can use the NOTES column to record anything you think might be important, such as what environment you found in in (e.g., in a marsh), time of day, etc. When you have completed all 8 entries with at least 2 species, submit the form to Joshua's Trust – by email to [michelle.poudrette@joshuustrust.org](mailto:michelle.poudrette@joshuustrust.org) or by mail to: Joshua's Trust PO Box 4, Mansfield Center 06250, or drop it off at the office at 624 Wormwood Hill Road, Mansfield Center 06250.

We have awards for completed entries – a choice of a tote bag or a hat, as well as stickers for the kids. We will also tally the number and diversity of finds for each property and share that on our website and in our winter newsletter. If you take photos, send us your favorite one! Most of all – just enjoy your time out in nature!

## Joshua's Trust Discovery Challenge\*

JT Property	Date Visited	Group 1 	Group 2 	Group 3 	Group 4 	NOTES

\* Enter a species identified in at least TWO groups at EACH property