

Find the Hidden Critters

Many animals blend in with their surroundings. Some hide to stay safe while others hide to hunt. In *Hidden Critters*, the fun is in finding animals in Stan Tekiela's beautiful photography. But *Hidden Critters* is also a scavenger-hunt game that you can play.

What You Need

- Adult helper
- Paper (such as a notepad)
- Writing utensil
- Magnifying glass (optional)
- Camera (optional)

Safety Note

Have an adult helper lead the hunt. If you live in an area with potentially dangerous animals (such as spiders or scorpions), use caution and common sense. Wear gloves, and don't reach where you can't see. If you're concerned about potentially dangerous critters, search for obviously safe bugs, such as flies, moths, and butterflies.

What to Do

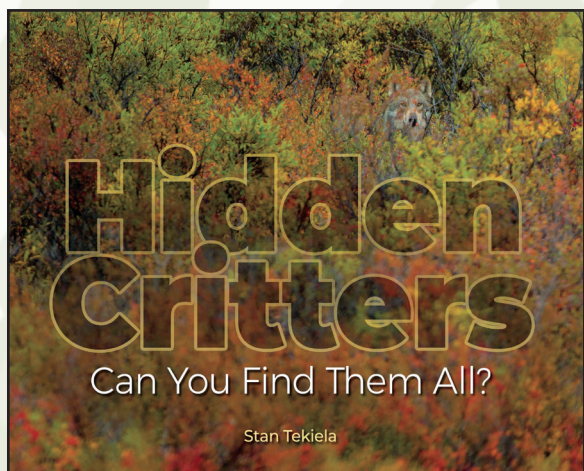
The goal of the game is to find as many hidden critters as you can. Once you start looking, you might notice a lot of them. Set a timer for 10–15 minutes. Then let the scavenger hunt begin. For each different type of animal that you find, mark a point on your paper. For a bonus point, identify the type of animal (such as bee, beetle, fly, or worm). For double bonus points, identify the specific species (such as Monarch butterfly). The winner is the person who earns the most points.

Hints

Dandelions, clovers, and other flowers often hold bees, flies, beetles, and other bugs. Tree bark and garden plants (such as hostas) are often where moths hide during the day; if you look carefully, you might spot them. You also can sometimes find slugs, land snails, and worms under dead logs. If you have trouble finding critters, take a closer look. Some critters are so small that you need a magnifying glass to find them. Flower mites, jumping spiders, and aphids are examples of tiny but fascinating bugs.

Take Pictures

While you're playing, it's fun to photograph what you see. Sometimes the smallest finds make for the prettiest pictures.



CAN YOU FIND THE HIDDEN CRITTERS IN THESE PHOTOS?

Award-winning wildlife photographer Stan Tekiela presents his amazing wildlife images that prove animals are great at hiding—often without even trying. Study each picture, and try to spot the critter. Then read the clues and guess which animal it is. When you have an answer, turn the page and find out if you're right! **Hidden Critters** is an engaging introduction to animals. Finding them is sure to become your family's favorite game!

