

Parks Victoria's Citizen Science Toolkit



Citizen science is an opportunity for anyone to help scientists study the environment and contribute to research. iNaturalist is a popular citizen science platform that enables users to document and share observations of biodiversity.

Here's how you can get started:



- 1 Download the iNaturalist app for free from your mobile device's app store.



- 2 Create an account and join projects that align with your interests.



- 3 Use your smartphone or camera to make observations.



- 4 Upload your observation and provide helpful information for identifiers.



- 5 Use iNaturalist's built-in image recognition tool to suggest possible identifications, or leave it as "unknown" if you're not sure.



- 6 Add the location and other relevant details. The iNaturalist app has a GPS tool that can automatically capture the location of an observation.



- 7 Submit the observation, and the iNaturalist community of identifiers can help confirm or refine your identification.



A bioblitz is an intensive and collaborative survey of a particular area to document and identify as many species as possible within a specific timeframe.

If you're participating in a bioblitz, remember to use all of your senses and record as much information as possible, such as the location, date and time, weather, habitat and number of species observed.

When taking photos, remember to be patient, respect the organism's space and use natural lighting.

It's important to mark observations as "Captive" or "Cultivated" if the organism is not wild.

Finally, remember to stay safe and be respectful of the environment.



For more information and tips for running your own bioblitz, scan or click to download the full Citizen Science Toolkit.