Farms grow food for us, and also provide open space where animals make their homes. Sit silently on or near the bridge, and watch for wildlife along the banks of Rock Creek. Draw any wildlife you see in the circles below, and also fill a few circles with things that animals may depend on, such as the creek (water to drink), or a log or bush (for small animals to hide in). Don’t forget insects!

**Wildlife Watch**

Imagine you are a red-tailed hawk. You live in this area and hunt for rodents, reptiles, or other birds. Think about what might be important to you. Where would you build your nest? Hidden down in the grass or up in the tallest trees? Write where you would live and one reason you think this is a good place for a red-tailed hawk, such as yourself. (Hint: Look for a hawk to see where it goes.)

**Red-tailed Hawk**

As a red-tailed hawk, where would you live?

________________________________________________________________________________________________

Why?

________________________________________________________________________________________________

MAP ACTIVITY!

Legend:
- Parking area
- Restrooms
- Main trail
- Activity spot
- Bench overlook
- Goodhue farm
- Picnic shelter
- Creek
- Mountain views
- Closed area (wildlife habitat)
I Spy

Be a detective! Mark on the map where you see any of these items.

For example, put a B on the map where you see a bird's nest.

A. Rotten log
B. Bird nest
C. Cattail
D. Prairie dog
E. Narrow leaf
F. Smooth rock
G. Narrow leaf
H. Animal track
I. Narrow leaf
J. Nest

Feel free to get help from grown-ups on this, but remember, these activities are for you! You can write or draw anywhere in this mystery guide. The more thoughtful and artistic, the better!

Keep a nest tally!

Nest Tally

Don't go near the nests—we don't want to disturb the birds in their homes!

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Nature Detectives Club, Boulder County Parks & Open Space, 5201 St. Vrain Road, Longmont, CO 80503

Complete the information below so we can send you prizes and return your mystery guides!

Grown-ups, please provide the following information:

Detective’s name: ___________________________ Age: ________

Address: ____________________________________

City, State: __________________________________

Zip code: ___________________________

Phone: ___________________________

Look for Nature Detective inserts and activities in each issue of Images.

Your Case:

Carolyn Holmberg Preserve

This is a great place to see raptors (birds of prey) such as hawks and eagles. It is also home to snakes, deer, prairie dogs, foxes, coyotes, mice, and many others. You can also see a working farm in action. The farmer grows several foods, including a pick-your-own pumpkin patch for Halloween!

Your mission is to become a young Nature Detective, collecting clues from the world around you, and solving mysteries of the forest, prairie, wetlands, and mountains.

After completing a mystery guide we will send you a useful tool for your future outdoor adventures.

All right detective, let's go!

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