Fish or Human?
Can you spot any fish in the water? Fish and humans have some body features in common, and some that are different. Draw each of the following features on the human, the fish, or both.

- Feet
- Fins
- Eyes
- Hands
- Nose
- Scales
- Hair
- Gills
- Teeth

Masters of Disguise
“Camouflage” is when something has a similar color or pattern to its surroundings. Camouflage helps prey animals to hide from danger, and helps predators sneak up on prey. The pictures below show a male and female mallard duck.

Circle the one with better camouflage.

Bonus: How would you camouflage yourself in a pond environment?
Insect Interview

Find and watch an insect for a few minutes. What insect is it? (You can make up a name if you don’t know it!)
______________________________________________

Imagine you are that insect and answer the questions below.

What do you use for shelter?
______________________________________________
______________________________________________
______________________________________________
______________________________________________

What do you eat?
______________________________________________
______________________________________________
______________________________________________
______________________________________________

What creatures might eat you?
______________________________________________
______________________________________________
______________________________________________
______________________________________________

What do you do during winter?
______________________________________________
______________________________________________
______________________________________________
______________________________________________

Touch a Pond

Find a safe spot to put your fingers or hand into the water. Now think of a mountain stream. How would you describe the temperature? Would the temperature feel different? Why?

Write here!

Start here!

MYSTERY GUIDE

- Take this Mystery Guide and a pen or pencil with you as you explore. To complete your Nature Detective training at this park, complete at least 3 of the 5 activities.
- Inside you will find a map of the park, which will serve as a guide. Some activities correspond to locations on the map, ♦️, and some activities can be done anywhere.
- 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!

Nature Detectives Club
Mystery Guides can be found at:
1) Agricultural Heritage Center
2) Bald Mountain Scenic Area
3) Betasso Preserve
4) Caribou Ranch Open Space
5) Carolyn Holmberg Preserve
6) Heil Valley Ranch (currently closed)
7) Mud Lake Open Space
8) Pella Crossing
9) Walden Ponds Wildlife Habitat

Drop completed mystery guides in the Nature Detectives Club mailbox at each park. If you need to finish at home, mail it to us: Nature Detectives Club, Boulder County Parks and 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: ____________________________

PELLA CROSSING

A mystery awaits in this county park full of clues!

- 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!

(Extended for ages 4-11)