BioBlitz is coming to Kansas!
Courtesy of Kansas Geographic Alliance
Aug. 25, 2016

When you give a kid a smart phone, they can stay glued to it for hours playing mindless games like Angry Birds. I have seen hyperactive, ADD children sit in the same spot without moving because they were so captivated by what was transpiring on that tiny little screen. It is no wonder Nature Deficit Disorder has become a real epidemic in our society.

BioBlitz is a solution that combines going outside and smart phones or cameras. The best of both the natural and technological worlds! Kids stay engaged in what they’re doing and even learn about their community’s environment.

BioBlitz is the most talked about-event this year at National Geographic. Across the nation, groups of scientists, families, students, teachers and other community members are teaming up to identify as many plants, animals, microbes, fungi, and other organisms as they possibly can.

Unless you are a well-trained naturalist, you would find great difficulty if outside and trying to name every species of plant and animal around you; but, with BioBlitz, the new movement in geography education, you and your students become the expert. All you need is a smart phone or a camera.

Every member of the Kansas Geographic Alliance and their students and families can, and should, participate in a BioBlitz this year. You can set up your own event OR

We are providing the opportunity for a teacher and class to join the Kansas Geographic Alliance (KGA) at Cheyenne Bottoms Nature Center for an afternoon spring Bio Blitz led by Nature Center naturalist. Event begins at 12:00 noon on Aug. 25th. Space limited, RSVP required.

We can help to defray transportation costs for a class. Request to participate by sending an email to Dr. Paul Phillips at pphillip@fhsu.edu, Co-coordinator for KGA.

Here’s what you need to do before a BioBlitz: Download the iNaturalist app onto your phone. That’s it! Strap on some shoes, corral your kids, slap an iPhone or Android in their hands, and watch them discover new aspects of their surrounding environment. Don’t forget to take pictures and send the KGA, ksgeog@ksu.edu stories and pictures of what you discovered!