Create a Local Living Thing

This activity is adapted from the Natural History Museum of Utah.

Time: 20-30 minutes

Materials: Any craft supplies/items from your junk drawer you no longer want/miscellaneous items from your house. You can also use items you find outside in nature (rocks, sticks, leaves). There are no limits on the materials you can use!

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1. **Imagine you are a biologist who has discovered a new species of animal. On a piece of paper draw a living thing that you think could live in your neighborhood. Answer the following questions on the piece of paper:**
    a. What kind of food could your living thing find in your neighborhood? How does it catch/gather its food?
    b. What kind of creatures would try to eat your living thing? How does it protect against predators?
    c. How big is your creature?
2. **Using whatever materials you have gathered from around the house and outside, build your creature! As you build, answer the following questions:**
    a. What parts does your living thing have that help it live in the neighborhood (for example: can it blend in to its surroundings, does it have a lot of eyes to help it see better, is it very fast?)
    b. Where would your creature live in the neighborhood? What kind of habitat does it need?
    c. Does your creature need people to live?
3. **Take a picture of your creature and share it with us! Send an email to morgan.florsheim@cumberlandrivercompact.org OR tag us on social media at @crcompact (Instagram) or @The_Compact (Twitter).**