

## Balmoral Bio-Challenge

1. This quest starts at the top of the Balmoral Community.
2. Parking can be found at a small gravel lot at the top of Balmoral, usually enough for about 3-4 cars.
3. As you begin to walk into the woods, you will see a green TRAIL post and a post and rail fence on the right. Please stay to the left of the post and rail fence.
4. The Balmoral Ridge is a great forest area with a small network of trails. To begin your quest, you will follow the trail ahead and in about 100 feet you will **turn left**. The trail is a little tricky to find at first so keep your eyes open. As you walk, look for little blue salamander shapes that mark some of the trees and rocks. The trail will wind its way through the woods. The trail is a loop that is about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile and will bring you back to the parking lot.
5. Biology is a study of living things. Lake Langanore and the surrounding forests are great places to find a variety of living organisms. This quest will ask you to “stop and smell the roses” as you hike along the path.
6. Use your logbook to record your answers by creating the chart below. Divide the rectangle into 4 equal sections, by drawing two lines. Then label each section like the following:

Flower / Plant	Mammal
Tree / Leaf	Insect

7. Now, as you hike record the some of the VARIETY of each that you find. You don't need to be able to identify what each is, just that you find **different types of living things**. For younger (and older) questers, you can draw a picture in each of the boxes and label as best as you can. A finished chart may have four pictures, or it may have short descriptions of what was found during your hike. Record as many as you like, but be sure to have at least one in each category.

*Some suggestions for recording:*

8. *Flower and plant descriptions can include height, colors, textures, and smells.*
9. *Tree / Leaf descriptions can include shape, color, approx. size, etc.*
10. *Mammal descriptions could include size, color, track and/or droppings descriptions*
11. *Insect could include size, color, lengths of segments, etc.*