

The benefits which can be drawn from Nature Study may be summarized as follows:

From the teacher's standpoint.

Sympathy with his pupils, and an exhaustless supply of material always available to maintain this bond, such as no other study gives.

New fields of personal and fascinating research of a useful and healthful character.

From the pupil's standpoint.

1. Interest in studies. The attractive and novel nature of the objects observed catches the attention and induces studious habits, which soon extend to all other studies and promote perseverance.

2. Increased power of observation. With practice the faculties of observation and comparison are wonderfully developed, and, with this, greater reasoning powers are evolved.

3. System. The wonderful system everywhere manifested must induce systematic and orderly habits—finishing completely everything undertaken and having a place for everything and keeping it there.

4. Neatness. The beauty of neatness will be constantly apparent in natural objects, and its nature brought out later on by the necessity of making constant notes, which will be useless for future reference unless legibly and neatly written. The advantage of neatness will also be demonstrated and skill of hand developed in mounting, classifying, and arranging numerous specimens, should collections be made.

5. Patience. There is nothing more necessary for effective work in nature than patience, indeed it is so indispensable when studying living animals, that little progress can be made without it; the development of this virtue then is a natural and unconscious outcome of this work.

6. Literary value. A point which must not be forgotten in this connection is the care necessary in expressing all records in concise, definite and simple language, so that there may be no danger of doubt or misunderstanding. This gives these studies much value in education.

7. Increase of knowledge. By an intelligent consideration of the commonest objects which surround us, we derive an unexpected and most useful increase in our practical knowledge of the things which make up the world we live in, and at the same time find in that knowledge a source of pure pleasure not provided by any other course of study.

8. Kindness. Nature Study introduces us to many friends among the wild birds, animals and insects which we should never have appreciated as such but for its power in having removed some part of the dense cloak of ignorance by which most of these are hidden. These