



**Baltimore Woods  
Nature Center**  
*Nature in your hands*

## *I'm Weird and So Are You*

When you reflect upon your idiosyncrasies, just think: weirdness reigns throughout the animal kingdom. Check out these videos of weird animal behaviors by [clicking here](#).

So the question is: what is something weird about you?

There seems to be a general fear of the weird, perhaps engrained in us long ago from childhood and those inherently uncomfortable pre-teen years. Perhaps it's biological – being a part of the pack is feasibly safer than being the odd one out. Or maybe the anxiety surrounding the idea of “being weird” stems from a fear of breaking with tradition or cultural norms.

Maybe we are all weird. Some may stop right here and ask “what is weird *anyway*?” The idea of “being weird” differs across the globe. What may be outright weird to your friend may be labeled as a cutesy “quirk” by someone else. Throughout human history, weird has been defiled and embraced, demonized and beloved. Weirdness, and the practice of it, is as unique as you are and the place you come from.

Let's embrace our weirdness. Let's allow the summertime sunshine to spread light and let our weirdness breathe. Put a feather in your hair, wear your socks inside out, read a book without words. Weird or not, the important part is to love one another and to take care to properly wash your hands.

Reflect upon the animals and plants that may live nearby at your favorite park or even in your backyard. Do you notice anything weird or wacky? Perhaps you see a bird that has decided to build a nest atop your gutter rather than in a tree, or spot a yellow flower budding amongst a sea of purple. Try and find at least three weird and wacky nature happenings this week. Take a moment to send your findings over to the naturalists at Baltimore Woods Nature Center at [connect@baltimorewoods.org](mailto:connect@baltimorewoods.org).