## Facilitator's Guide

The ReDesign Your Climb, biomimetic challenge journal gives learners the opportunity to practice their information literacy skills.

Each journal has ample room for notes and ideas, sketching and ideation, and three pages for citations.

Think of the journal as an inventor's log book sprinkled with natural inspirations.



Encourage learners to think outside the box.

First they will look at the obvious inspirations, talons and claws.

Remind learners to look into the special skills of snails and slugs.

See if you can invite some speculation about the climbing tools of plants and the clinging abilities of frogs and lizards.

A few of the pages in the journal will invite learners to think about human-centered design, issues of equity and community health and manufacturing processes. At its best biomimicry promotes innovation that is conducive to life – the life of the planet as well as the lives of the manufacturers and users of any new invention. Some guidance to begin asking the questions that lead to life-conducive, nature-inspired invention may be found in the second half of the journal.

Encourage learners to make use of the Biomimicry Institute's resource: AskNature.org. They may search for a featured collection, use the Biological Strategies tab to explore by functional properties, or use the main search bar to look for information about climbing in general or about a particular plant or animal they are hoping to be inspired by, by typing in free-form words like 'cling', 'climb' or 'mountain goat'.



a biomimetic challenge journal

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For instance, learners might select the Biological Strategies tab and then click Move or Stay Put, and from there, Attach Temporarily. Several examples of organisms that attach to temporarily to biotic or abiotic elements of their habitats will appear beside the menu. Encourage learners to click Show More Results at the bottom of each page of examples to find more.

Learners may then click on each tab (e.g., Feet Grip Waxy Leaves, Leaf Beetle) for more information. There may be a rich resource for each, or some may have only starters of information;

View these pages as a launching off point for more in-depth research.

