

# iNaturalist Getting Started Guide for Android

Hi and welcome to iNat! This guide will walk you through some of the main features of the site. For more information, go to <https://www.inaturalist.org/pages/getting+started>.

## Posting Observations

This article describes:

- [What are observations?](#)
- [How to make an observation with your iPhone](#)
- [How to make an observation with your Android](#)

## What Are Observations?

An observation records an encounter with an individual organism at a particular time and location. This includes encounters with signs of organisms like tracks, nests, or things that just died. When you make an observation, you'll record:

### Who you are

You'll need to make an **iNaturalist account** and please only post your own personal observations

### Where you saw it

Record both the coordinates of the encounter as well as their accuracy. You can obscure the location from the public

### What you saw

Choose a group of organisms like **butterflies** or better yet a specific organism like the **Monarch butterfly**. If you provide evidence you can leave this blank and the **community can help**

### When you saw it

Record the date of your encounter, not the date you post it to iNaturalist

### Evidence of what you saw

By including evidence like a **photo** or **sound**, the community can help add, improve, or confirm the identification of the organism you encountered. Help the community by taking clear well framed photos, by including multiple photos from different angles

Your observations don't need to include all of these parts, but they do in order to become research quality observations for science. Remember, you should make separate observations for each separate organism you encounter. If you observed something that is not wild, like a garden plant or a lion in the zoo, make sure to mark it as captive/cultivated to prevent it from becoming research quality.

## How to Make an Observation with your Android

- (1) Tap the **observe** button from the My Observations tab.



- (2) Add one or more photos as **evidence**.

- (3) Choose **what** you saw.

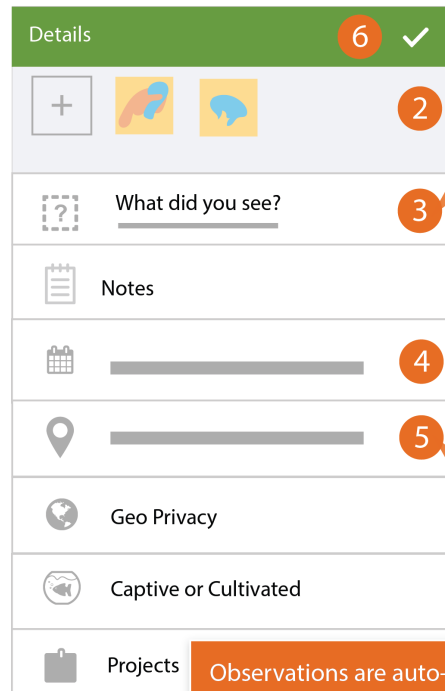
- (4) **When** you saw it should be added automatically.

- (5) **Where** you saw it should be added automatically. If this doesn't happen, check app permissions in the Settings app.

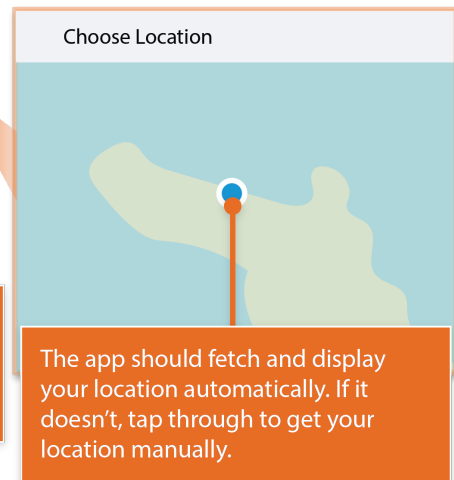
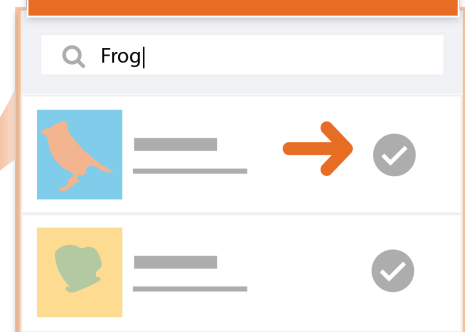
- (6) **Save** your observation.

- (7) **Sync** to share with the community. This should happen automatically. If it doesn't, tap the button. You can turn off auto upload from the Settings tab.

- (8) Check back for **activity** on your observation from the community or be notified by email to the address in your account settings.



Choose one of the computer vision suggestions, search for something else, or type in 'Placeholder' if offline



Observations are automatically counted by collection projects and can't be added manually

The app should fetch and display your location automatically. If it doesn't, tap through to get your location manually.

