

Spring Outdoor Scavenger Hunt



Objective: Everyone loves a scavenger hunt! See if you can use your senses to find the signs of spring.

Materials:

- Worksheet (pg. 2,3)
- Collection bag or container (old yogurt container, plastic jar)
- Pencil
- Paper for drawing

Getting Started: What are your five senses that help you understand your world? Stand outside and close your eyes and take a deep belly breath and think about what you notice. Open your eyes and remember what you heard or smelled or how the air felt. It can be exciting to get outside, to look closely and become curious about the environment around you.

Activity:

1. Search outside for the items listed on the worksheet and mark them with a pencil when you find them.
2. Make a deeper observation by finishing the prompt: I notice, I wonder, or It reminds me of.
3. Consider a question you might have about that item. Consider collecting some items to bring home for more detailed observation and drawing or illustrating.
4. Was there something surprising that you observed today that you haven't noticed before? Will you take more time in the future to notice the sky, the small details of a plant, or the sounds in the air around you?
5. Remember one scavenger hunt item that you will return to tomorrow to check for change.

Extension: If students brought something back for illustrating - provide paper and pencils to draw the item with as much detail as possible.

1. Add description with numbers. How can you use math to think about the object? How many parts does it have? How long is it? How tall is it? Add the numbers and units to your drawing.
2. Include words that help describe the smell, sound or color.
3. Add additional drawing or pictures to show the surroundings or details.
4. Take one of the questions noted on the worksheet about the observations and construct an investigation to help find an answer.

Good work, scientists!

Spring Outdoor Scavenger Hunt Worksheet

Find each of these items in your backyard, neighborhood or park. Write an observation that you make about each item. Write down questions you may have about your observation. Choose one thing to bring back for deeper observation and illustration.

- A cloud in the sky
 - It reminds me of:
 - Question:

- A tiny leaf on a bush, shrub or tree
 - I wonder:
 - Question:

- A flower bud
 - I notice:
 - Question:

- A new sprout coming out of the dirt (what plant parts does it have?)
 - It reminds me of:
 - Question:

- A flower (what does it smell like?)
 - I wonder:
 - Question:

- Four birds
 - I notice:
 - Question:

- A small soil creature like a pill bug (rollie pollie), worm or millipede
 - I wonder:
 - Question:

- One sound from nature that is close by
 - It reminds me of:
 - Question:

- One sound that is from far away
 - I wonder:
 - Question:

- Mud
 - It reminds me of:
 - Question:

- Your shadow
 - I notice:
 - Question:

- An insect (6 legs, 3 body parts, 2 antennae)
 - I wonder:
 - Question:

- Branches or sticks fallen from a tree
 - It reminds me of:
 - Question:

