



NATURE SCAVENGER HUNT

DESCRIPTION

Students will find this activity very exciting and satisfactory – and you will too, as students use language, verbal, visual and kinesthetic skills to explore the diversity of nature. Try to get lots of parent volunteers for this activity!

PREPARATION

Time required: 30 minutes

Materials required

- Checklists



PROCEDURE

1. In this activity students are divided into groups and each group has to find (and tick off) as many of the objects on the following list as possible.
2. Every student in the group must observe and feel the object before they can move on to the next object. Note that two different checklists may be used, depending on your groups' abilities. You may wish to discuss the more difficult checklist as a group before asking them to explore the area.
3. In a normal scavenger hunt, you're supposed to collect items. This is NOT the case in this activity: tell students that object certainly must be seen, touched, and felt, but not picked up (unless they are lying loose, like a pine cone). Objects are definitely not to be collected. Tell students that the Nature Scavenger Hunt is not a race! During the hunt they are to be calm, relaxed, and observant. Ask them not to run and to stay with their groups.

You may wish to invite parents to join you for this activity to give you a parent/student ratio of 1:6 or better. Alternatively, older students with adequate reading skills can work in small groups by themselves.

Nature Scavenger Hunt

Tell your students that the items below are just to touch and to see - but NOT to collect. Check off the following things that you have found:

Basic Checklist

Find...

- a rock
- soil
- something prickly
- something furry
- something smooth and cold
- something bumpy
- something scratchy
- a berry
- a red leaf
- a brown leaf
- a yellow leaf
- a green leaf
- moss
- a pine cone
- a pine cone that has been pulled apart by a squirrel
- something wet
- something sticky
- something made by humans (this is litter - pick it up!)

Advanced Checklist

Find...

- something alive
- something dead
- something that has a happy look
- something that has a fierce look
- a plant growing on a non-living thing
- a plant that is shaded by a plant
- a plant that is shaded by a plant that is shaded by a plant!
- something that is changing back into soil
- an example of erosion
- food that would be good for a sparrow
- a tree with flat needles
- a plant that smells nice
- a leaf that has been chewed by an insect
- a dead branch on a living tree
- something that you think is really interesting
- something that you dislike
- something that helps a robin