

Outdoor Learning Experience (6 years old)

Learning Experience: Exploring Symmetry in Nature	Shared by: Geraldine Hii
Environment: Neighbourhood Park	Estimated time: 60 minutes
Children's prior knowledge: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children have a conceptual understanding of symmetry 	
What children will experience: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children will have opportunities to observe natural objects, understand the structure of symmetry and identify the different shapes in nature. NEL Learning Areas Aesthetic and Creative Expression: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Observe elements of art in nature and communicate their ideas Discovery of the World: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make simple recordings of their observations 	Suitable for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 years old
What you will need: Quantity will be based on the number of children in the class <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drawing block Colour pencils Glue Scissors 	Benefit-Risk Assessment: <u>Benefit:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appreciation for nature Observe elements of symmetry in nature Encourage creative expressions <u>Risk:</u>

- Check environment for potential hazards or danger
- Check environment and route for potential hazards (e.g., traffic or road crossings)

Management:

- Adequate adult supervision
- Proper hydration
- Sun protection
- Access to help (e.g., communication devices, proximity to centre, first-aid kit)
- Set limits/boundary for children to explore
- Ensure teachers have sight of the children at all times

How to make it happen:

1. Bring the children outdoors and look for symmetry in nature (e.g., trees, shrubs, leaves, flowers, butterflies, birds).
2. For the task of creating an artwork of symmetry, encourage each child to pick 2 different types of leaves / flowers that will fit onto their drawing block.
3. After the children have selected their leaves / flowers, they will cut them in halves.
4. Get the children to stick their leaves / flowers, pressing them firmly to the drawing block.
5. Encourage children to talk about the shapes of the leaves/ flowers. Children may describe the veins on the leaves, the edges or curves of the leaves / flowers that they have found. They can then make a prediction of whether the leaves / flowers are symmetrical based on their observations.
6. Children to share their drawing and talk about their observations.

Photographs:

