

Outdoor Learning Experience (5 and 6 years old)

Learning Experience: Going on a Leaf Hunt	Shared by: Janeth Ng
Environment: Garden with potted plants or trees	Estimated time: 60 minutes
Children’s prior knowledge: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children have knowledge of how to use a magnifying glass and demonstrate fine motor skills in carrying out leaf rubbing. 	
What children will experience (NEL Learning Areas): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The children will learn about the leaves and create an artwork using leaf-rubbing technique. <p>Discovery of the World:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children will show an interest in the world they live in <p>Aesthetics and Creative Expression:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children will express ideas and feelings through art and music and movement Children will observe elements of art in the environment <p>Motor Skills Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children will demonstrate control and coordination in fine motor tasks Children will use eye-hand coordination to perform fine motor tasks 	Suitable for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 to 6 years old
What you will need: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clipboards, pencils, colour pencils, crayons and sheets of white paper – 1 for each child Magnifying glasses – 2 to 3 for sharing with the class 	Benefit-Risk Assessment: <p><u>Benefit:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The benefit is for children to hone their observation skill and practise fine motor skill as they carry out the leaf rubbing activity. <p><u>Risk:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Insect bites

2. Plants or trees with thorns or sharp edges

Management:

1. Remind the children to put on insect repellent
2. Highlight these plants and trees to the children and inform they have to be extra careful and not to touch these trees or plants

How to make it happen:

1. Provide clipboards, pencils, some colour pencils (to be shared among the class) and sheets of white paper. Bring the class for a leaf hunt to a nearby garden or community space with trees.
2. Have them observe the leaves and talk about the colours, lines, shapes and sizes. Suggested questions:
 - What are the colours of the leaves?
 - Are the leaves the same shape? What shape is it?
 - How are the leaves different from each other?
3. Get them to choose their favourite leaves. Have them draw and make simple recordings on the paper. Allow the children to use the magnifying glasses if necessary.
4. Have them select one of the fallen leaves (this may or may not be their favourite leaves). Remind them that they are not to pick the leaves from the plants or trees but to collect them from the ground.
5. Arrange the children in groups of 4 or 5. Provide crayons (to be shared among the group) and sheets of white paper. Have them explore making at least 2 leaf rubbings each using the different leaves gathered by the group.