

Outdoor Learning Experience (6 years old)

<p>Learning experience: Take a Closer Look at a Tree!</p>	<p>Shared by: Ambika Perisamy</p>
<p>Environment: Indoor/Outdoor – neighbourhood garden or park</p>	<p>Estimated time: 60 minutes</p>
<p>Children’s prior knowledge:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children would have experienced seeing or touching trees in their neighbourhood or seen them in pictures. 	
<p>What children will learn (NEL Learning Areas):</p> <p>Language and Literacy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children will talk about their observation of tree structure and their parts they observed in the neighbourhood with their peers. <p>Discovery of the World:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children will use their five senses and simple tool (camera) to observe the different types of trees and its actual structure and their parts in the neighbourhood. 	<p>Suitable for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 years old
<p>What you will need:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drawing paper • Pencils • Clipboards • Camera 	<p>Benefit-Risk Assessment:</p> <p><u>Benefit:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The outdoor learning allows the children to take a closer look at trees, their parts and sensory awareness. <p><u>Risk:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The uneven surfaces around the neighbourhood might cause children to trip and fall, cuts, grazes and abrasions. Ensure the routes are assessed for safety, children to wear appropriate footwear. Low branches to be

avoided. The outdoor learning spaces are safe for children to use for the activity.

Management:

- Scan the venue to ensure it is free from potential hazards such as sharp objects, pot holes, broken tiles or insects
- Set limits/boundary for children to explore
- Ensure teachers have sight of the children at all times

How to make it happen:

Indoors

1. Before going for an outdoor learning, have the children to close their eyes and picture a tree.
2. Ask them to think about its shape, branch arrangement, and trunk and leaf texture.
3. Have them draw a picture of a tree from their memory.

Outdoors

4. Next, head outside with a camera or sketchbook to have a closer look of the trees in their neighbourhood.
5. On their walk, locate and show the children, several different tree species for the to observe.

Ask the following questions to facilitate children's learning:

- What is the shape of the trunk? Tall, straight, bent, or twisted?
 - Is there one trunk or does it split into multiple trunks?
 - What colour is the bark? How does it feel? How does it look?
 - What shape are the branches and twigs?
 - Are there any seeds, flowers, fruits, etc. on the tree?
 - What colour or shape are the leaves? Where are they located on the tree?
6. While outside, encourage children to take photographs or make sketches to record their observation.
 7. Once their observations are complete, have children to draw their second tree picture.
 8. Get them to compare the two drawings and encourage them to share what new details appeared in their second drawing.

9. Get the children to find a partner and share the characteristics that are similar or different with their peers.
10. Inform the children their drawings will be displayed in their classroom and they can further discuss it for the next lesson.

Closure

Invite the children to help with the display of their tree picture drawn from the memory, next to their second picture of the tree they observed outdoors.