

Sensational Nature EYFS - How to guide

Collect equipment from the centre and follow the map to the Barn Garden

Equipment

Equipment below is provided

- A collection of touches sheet
- Smelly pots
- Magic potion (water with food colouring), water can be topped up using the tap in the side yard
- Stirring sticks
- Colour matching strips
- Bug eyes

Instructions

1. What are our senses? Can we name them? Let's explore the Barn Garden using 4 of our senses, reminder not to put anything in our mouths, we are not exploring taste!
Split children into small groups with adults (ideally 4 or 5 per group).
2. A collection of touches: give out sheet, groups to explore the garden and see if they can find something to put in each of the circles. Discuss: what should we not pick? No flowers. Also beware of things that can sting or prick ie stinging nettles, thistles.
Gather together and share finds.
3. Listen to the sounds of nature: stand in a circle (lie down if dry) and close eyes. What can we hear?
Share experiences. Discuss how animals have much better hearing than humans, why is this?
4. Smelly potions: give each group a pot, stirring stick and a dash of 'magic potion'. Can they find smelly things to add to their concoction?
Come back and share smells, do they smell the same or different. Can they think of a name for their potion? Discuss: many animals have a much better sense of smell than us, again why is this? Find a special place to tip out potion for wildlife to enjoy later.
5. Bug eyes: give out the bug eye viewers: this is how a fly and many insects see the world through compound eyes (with many lenses). Discuss: how does this feel?

Important: If its sunny advise not to look at the sun through bug eyes

6. Follow the map to the Wildflower Meadow for:
Colour matching: let one child from each group select a colour strip, can they find something to match that colour? (if a flower is the only thing that will match, they should only take one petal). Collect the matching item and then return the colour strip to swap for a different colour. Can they create a rainbow on the ground with the things they've found?
Discuss: nature is full of colour but some animals see colours differently to us.
7. Recap senses: Which of our senses have we used in this session?

At the end of the activity

1. Rinse out pots.
2. Return all equipment to the box and return to the centre.
3. Wash hands.

