

Knowledge about nature starts in nature!

Part 2



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Activities for children

Science for children

Soda bottle compost

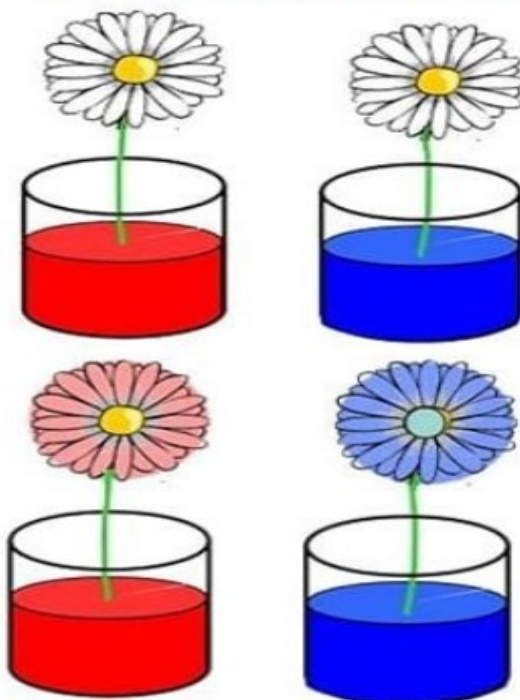


INSTRUCTIONS

Cut off the top a 2 liter soda bottle and rinse it out well. Remove the label so everything can be seen inside the bottle.

Start with a layer of soil on the bottom and alternate between soil and compostable material. You can use just about any plant matter like dead leaves, grass and pine cones. Sprinkle with water. Put a kitchen towel over the top of the bottle and put the bottle in window where it gets sunlight.

Science for children



How plants absorb water.

- 2 white flowers
- Two jars or glasses
- Blue and red food coloring
- Fill the jars with water
- Pore in red food color in one jar and blue in the other.
- Put a flower in each glass
- Wait a day or two to see the result of the experiment

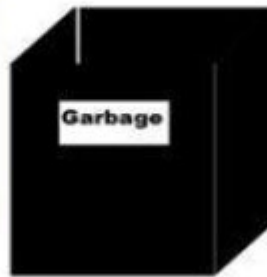
Send children on a scavenger hunt in nature!



Tell them to find

- something beautiful
- something red
- something green
- something tiny
- something bigger than your hand
- something that bends

Sort Waste



SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- Three small boxes
- Acrylic paint
- Paintbrushes
- Scissors
- Washable glue
- Cardboard

Instructions

Let the children paint the boxes in the colors that correspond with your bins at home.. Cut out the labels from the PDF and when the paint is dry, add the labels with glue on the jar, **Recycling, Compost, Garbage** from the printable. Cut out items from the PDF and glue them on a piece of cardboard.

Insects and spider hunt



Play Kim's play in Nature!



Five to ten nature objects are put in a frame of sticks. The children sit in a circle around the frame and look on the objects for a little while. Cover the objects with a cloth and tell the children to close their eyes. Take away one object and hide behind your back. Tell the children to open their eyes remove the clothe and ask the children which object has disappeared. Do it again and take away a another object.



- twine
- four sticks
- items found in nature

Make a frame by attaching the sticks together at each corner with the twine in a crisscross fashion once your frame is finished, tie a piece of the twine around one of the corners and begin wrapping it around the frame until the frame has lines of twine across it. by wrapping the twine twice around the stick helps to keep the twine taught and prevent it from sliding on the sticks. secure by knotting.

Science for children



A Self-Sustaining Ecosystem in a jar

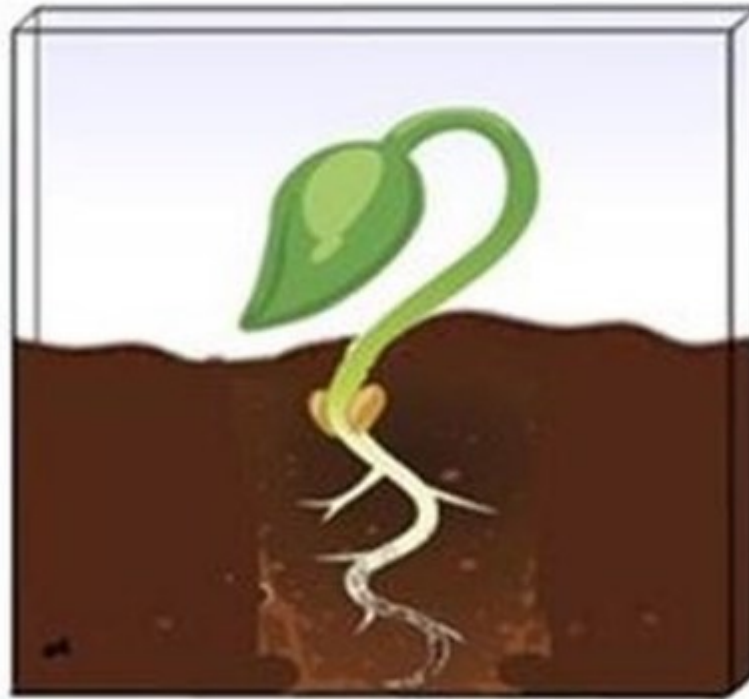
Earth in a jar

This is a great way to show children how an ecosystem works. How the soil depends on the water and how the plants grow with sunlight and other concepts like the photosynthesis

You need

- a jar
 - leca
 - potting soil
 - soil from an outdoor flowerbed
 - small plants
 - rocks
 - water spray bottle
 - extras: Pebbles, pine cones, sticks etc.
 -
 - Place a layer of leca in the bottom of the jar
 - Mix the potting soil with a little soil from a outdoor flowerbed
 - Fill the jar (one third of the height of the jar) with mixed soil
 - Plant small house plants like ivy, peace lily or spider plant in the soil
 - Decorate with sticks small pebbles etc.
 - Lightly mist the plants with a spray bottle.
 - Replace the jar's lid and set the jar in a bright place away from direct sunlight.
 - Check it every few weeks and add more water by lightly spraying the plants with the spray bottle if the soil feels dry
- If heavy condensation forms inside the glass, temporarily lift the cover to let some of the moisture escape

Plant in a cd-case



Children plant seeds and watch them sprout and grow inside a CD case. This is a great way to introduce children to the process of germination as well as plant anatomy.

All you need is:

- A seed (A large seed is better because it makes the process more visible for the children)
- Soil
- A cd case
- Tape
- Water
- Light
- Open the cd case, lay it down, and put soil on one side, a little over half way up.
- Put the seed in, about half an inch below the soil.
- Close the case, tape it shut around the bottom (wide tape is best)
- Put the CD on a sunny windowsill and water it every day.
- Wait

Nature collection hunt



grass



green leaf



yellow flower



feather



stone



sticks



clover



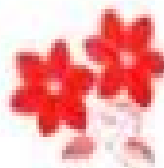
brown leaf



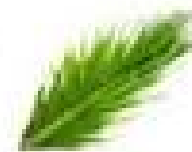
purple flower



pinecone



red flower



needle twig

Scavenger hunt I nature with a paper bag.

You need

A paper bag medium sized

Fiber pencil in different colors

Paint 3-6 spots with different colors

The amount of spots depends on the child's age

Give each child a bag and ask them to find things in nature that has similar colors that is painted on the bag Afterwards we sit together and the children will tell and show what they found



How plants transport water from the roots

You need

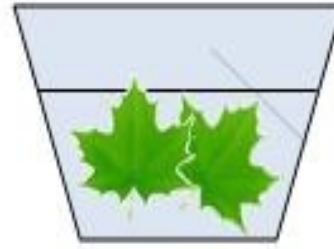
- Leaves
- Scissors
- Clear cups
- Water
- Red food coloring
- Magnifying glass



Collect various leaves. Cut off the bottom of each leaf stem and fill 2/3 of the) cups with water. Pore in red food coloring in the water and place each leaf in a glass Observe the leaves closely for three days (use a magnifying glass

Outcome of the experiment :the red color have moved slowly through the leaf.

Do plants breathe?



You need

- large transparent bowl
- 2 large leaves
- Instructions
- Fill a large transparent bowl with lukewarm water
- Go outside and carefully remove 2 large leaves from a tree
- put the leaves in the bowl and put a small rock on top of it so it is completely submerged under the water
- Wait a few hours

Outcome of the experiment: After a few hours you should see small bubbles that form around the leaf and the edges of the bowl. That is oxygen.

Make a nature square

Nature square where you can follow, explore and discover the changes of the seasons for a longer period of time is usually popular with children - and it's easy! Choose a place that you can visit often. It should be approximately 20 x 20 meters so that you get a lot of different things to explore. Preferably an area with stones, various trees, bushes, lichen, mosses, plants and a lot of small insects.

You need

4 sticks, flower sticks or similar

String or colored ribbons

Instructions

Go to a natural area.

Step or measure an area of 10x10 meters up to 20 x 20 meters.

Knock down a stick in each corner.

Tie string or ribbon around the sticks to further mark the area.



What do you have in your hand?

Sit in a big circle, everyone has their hands behind their backs. Go around and place a natural object in each child's hand. Try to have different objects for each child. The children must then one by one tell their peers how it feels he/she has in hand. The group must try to guess what it is. Then the item is displayed.



What does not belong in nature?

Start by placing out five or more objects that do not belong in nature, for example a candy wrapper, a plastic bottle, a plastic bag or a soda can etc. Then let the children search and find what shouldn't be there. Put the things in a paper bag and take them back to the school and throw them in the right places. Talk to the children why you should not put litter in nature. For example, it can hurt wild animals.



Mini compost box

Instructions

Material

Box with high edges

Newspapers

Leaves + soil+ water

Compost worms (They are found, for example, in old composts)

Plastic to cover with

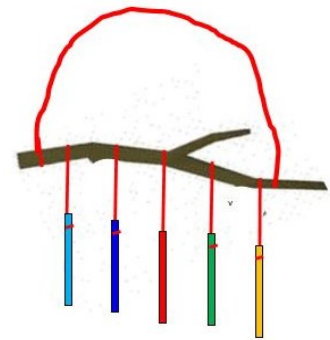


Get a box with high sides and cover the bottom with newspaper. Then put a layer of leaves and a few liters of soil on top. Moisten with water. Then put in compost worms. Compost worms you can find in old composts. Place a plastic cover over the box to protect the compost from drying out. Test what it can break down, e.g. paper towels, apple powder, banana peel, a piece of plastic bag, tinfoil or writing paper. When you know what the compost can handle, it can help the children understand how to get rid of parts of their rubbish in a sustainable way.

Make a wind chime

Material

- 5-7 sticks of various lengths and thicknesses
- 1 long stick for your hanger
- paint
- paintbrush
- twine



Collect sticks with the children and take them back to the preschool. Paint the sticks in all the colors of the rainbow. You may need two coats. Let them dry. Take a larger, thicker stick and attach 5-7 strings to it. Hang a small, painted stick on each string.

Natural Box

One way to collect materials is to make a box that can be easily taken out and used together with the children in nature. The box can be refilled as it is used and new ideas and approaches are discovered.

Suggestions of content

Magnifiers

Magnifying glasses

Bug magnifier pots

Collects fabric bags for natural objects we find

Pen

Notebook

National Flora and fauna dictionary

National Dictionary of Small Insects

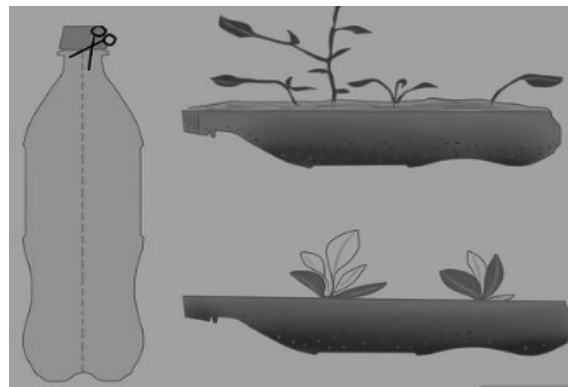
Camera

First Aid Kit



Recycled containers

If you do not have enough space for a garden, you can grow flowers and vegetables in containers. Almost any vegetable that can be grown in a garden will work well as a container-grown plant. You can make seeds or growing trays from plastic bottles. Either cut them right down to make a shallow tray or slice open a two-liter drinks bottle vertically don't forget to pierce drainage holes into the bottom.



Make a water can

Laundry detergent bottles (wash them properly before using them) and plastic drink bottles can be used as watering cans. Drill a few small holes into the lid and the water can is ready. By using recycled bottles every child can get their own water can to water their seedlings



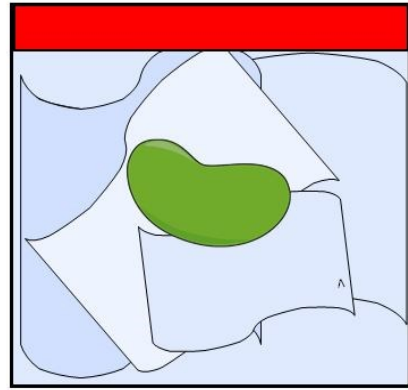
Plant in a zip bag

Materials:

- 1 lima bean
- zip lock bag
- paper towel
- spray bottle

Instruction

1. Moisten a paper towel with the spray bottle
2. Place the wet paper towel in a zip lock bag
3. Place bean on top of wet paper towel
4. Close the zip lock bag
5. Place the zip lock bag in a warm, sunny spot
6. Add water to the paper towel when it dries out
7. In 3 days to a week, it is fully sprouted. In a few more days, the leaves will start to emerge. At this point, the beans are ready to move to soil.



Printable PDFs



Sort Waste Activity

Supplies needed

- Three small boxes
- Acrylic paint
- Paintbrushes
- Labels Markers
- pencil crayons, or crayons
- Scissors
- Washable glue
- Cardboard

Instructions

Let the children paint the boxes in the colors that correspond with your bins at home..

The PDF shows pictures of various waste items ready for the bins.

milk cartons

food waste

paper products

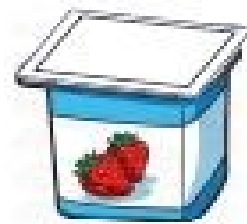
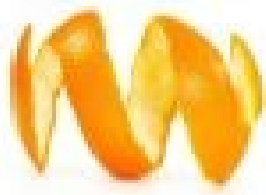
tin cans

plastic containers

glass bottles

Cut out the labels **Recycling, Compost Garbage** or (make your own) from the PDF and when the paint is dry, add the labels with glue on the jar. Cut out the items from the PDF and glue them on a piece of cardboard

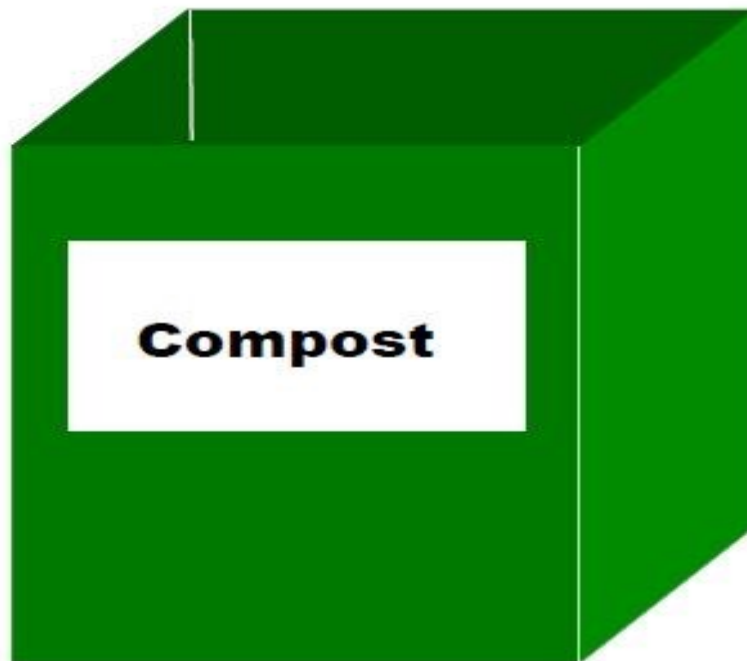
This activity will help children to learn which items go in the compost, which go in the recycle bin and which go in the garbage when sort them into the matching containers (boxes)



Compost

Garbage

Recycling



Nature collection hunt



grass



green leaf



yellow flower



feather



stone



sticks



clover



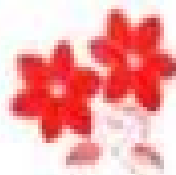
brown leaf



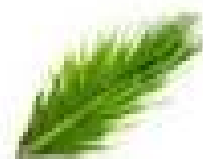
purple flower



pinecone



red flower



needle twig

Insects and spider hunt



Knowledge about nature starts in nature Part 2

In Knowledge about nature starts in nature Part 2 you find nature activities to do with children outdoors. Science experiment, scavenger hunts, crafts and some other stuff.

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