

Nature Walk Activity Observe and Collect Leaves

Nature provides all of us ample opportunities to learn from it. For LPS children, a walk in and around the school observing patterns in nature will open up a plethora of opportunities to develop language skills in children.

Through a well-planned nature walk to collect dry leaves that have fallen on the ground and related classroom activities, we can aim to develop following LSRW skills:

Listening skill - Children will develop a habit of following rules for discussions (e.g., only one person speaks at a time and everyone else has to listen with an assurance that everyone will get a chance to speak)

Listening and speaking - Children will be able to participate in collaborative conversations with peers and teachers focussing on a topic in small groups and large groups. (Group work and whole class work)

Speaking –

Students will be able to ask questions when in doubt to clarify what was heard.

Students will explain their observations and ideas in their own words

Students will have multiple opportunities to use new words that were introduced which will lead to expansion of their vocabulary

Children will use language creatively and purposefully

Reading -

Students will get accustomed to books through shared reading of books related to their observation

Students will develop an interest to look at pictures and turn the pages of books and understand general layout of story books

Writing

Students will try to represent what they have observed in written form (pictures)

Classroom activity before going out for observation:

Giving opportunity for children to talk about leaves.

Teacher to ask children:

what they know about leaves

the different colour leaves that they have seen

the questions they have about leaves (see if any of the questions can be answered by their observations and guide them to do it)

Shared Reading

Following the conversation a book related to the topic is taken for shared reading:

Kannada: For class 1 and 2 children, book 'ಎಲಿ' (Leaf) from story weaver is one of the options to be taken up for reading –

<https://storyweaver.org.in/stories/47928-ele>

For class 3 - read the story "One Beautiful Tree"

<https://storyweaver.org.in/stories/15020-ondusundara-mara>

(Just the first page. It can be continued after the walk adding one sentence every day - draw on their observations)

Tell them that they will be Collecting fallen leaves

Preparation for the walk – Instructions

Have children take a paper cover to collect leaves

Optional – Children can make their own newspaper bag to collect leaves -
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RP98knsZCqY>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aest2gsxFOw>

Group children so that there are 5 to 8 children in a group.
Give different choices for children to note their observations

1. Make a drawing of what they see
2. Work in pairs – tell each other what was observed, help each other report what was seen (Oral work)/ use hands or legs wherever possible to describe

Ask them to take a notebook/worksheet and pencil

Tell them to pick up only fallen leaves and not pluck them indiscriminately from plants

Discuss the weather before hand

Give safety precautions – not run into a bush, watch out for muddy/wet pathways, vehicles on the road etc.,

Tell them to be open and observe the tree/plant/bush from which the leaves have fallen. Touch them and remember the colour, texture

Tell them to observe how the fallen dry leaf is different from the one on the plant and how it is similar

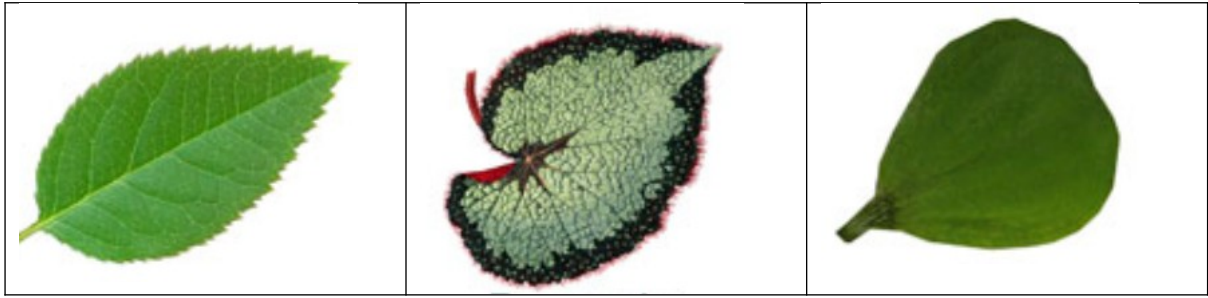
Also ask children to see any small bugs that they come across and sketch it as they see
Be prepared to record children's voices on mobile phone, if they are not able to draw or write
Give them the following worksheet and **circle the shape that is closest** to what they are observing

OR

Worksheet could be given in the classroom to match with what they have collected.
Homework could be given to collect as many different shapes of leaves as they can.

Walk around the school – Observation of leaves





(Source of pictures: <https://www.sciencefacts.net/types-of-leaves.html>)

The walk

Make children into groups and ask them to explore specific areas. Let the group be a mixed ability group in terms of oral expression.

Let them walk there freely. Observing, noting down, discussing and collecting

After walk activities:

Continue reading the books that were started; connect the pictures with children's observation wherever possible.

Children can extend the following ಚುಟುಕು with their own nature walk experience

ತೋಟ ತೋಟ ಯಾವ ತೋಟ

ನೋಡಿದಿವು ಹಸಿಲಿ ತೋಟ

ತೋಟ ತೋಟ ಯಾವ ತೋಟ

ನೋಡಿದಿವು ಬಿದ್ದ ತರಗಿಲಿ ತೋಟ and so on...

Children look at their leaves and learn vocabulary to describe them

Vocabulary words (to be expanded depending on the leaves children collect)

ದೊಡ್ಡದು, ಚಿಕ್ಕದು, ಬದಿ, ತುದಿ, ತಿಳಿ, ಗಾಢ, ಒರಟು, ನಯ

Children work in groups and discuss. They describe the leaves that they have collected. They practice the description and present to the whole class. Children make a leaf rangoli in groups. Example



Children involved in this activity will take lead in showing this to the class and describe how they did it.

In addition to the above activities, Class 3 children groups try to answer specifically to the following questions and prepare a chart to display in the classroom.

1. Name the colours of the leaves that you have collected
 2. When you touch the leaf, how does it feel?
 3. Have you collected leaves that have pointy edges? How many different kinds have you collected in this category?
 4. Have you collected leaves that have smooth edges? How many different kinds have you collected in this category?
 5. How many leaves did you collect?
 6. What shapes are your leaves?
 7. What else did you see in your walk?
 8. Do you know the name of any of the plants that you collected leave from?
- Children make charts using the above information and the leaves that they have collected

Home Work – Individual reports (3or 4 children can present in one day)

9. Do you know if any of the leaves you collected are used as part of “ಬಿರಕಿ ಸೊಪ್ಪು”?
10. What are the different edible leaves that are part of ಬಿರಕಿ ಸೊಪ್ಪು – find out from parents/grand parents/neighbours and present in class; if feasible bring samples)

Assessment activity

Class 1 and 2 – Individual activity (All children do it at the same time listening to oral instructions)

Children identify a particular characteristic of leaf eg., Pick out a leaf that has a smooth surface

Place leaf with light green/yellow facing up etc., (The characteristics will depend on the collection)

Class 3 – Group activity

Categorise the leaves with your own parameters

Rubrics-

For groups

- a) Are able to categorise based on shape/size/colour/utility/venation etc.,
- Are able to categorise when a parameter is provided
- Need more experiences to understand categorisation

Individual students

- b) Works well in groups
- Finds it difficult to cooperate, but tries
- Does not join the group

Learning Indicators

Source: Brinda Rao

ಆಲಿಸುವಿಕೆ

ಶಿಕ್ಷಕರು, ಸಹಪಾಠಿಗಳು ಹೇಳುವುದನ್ನು ಕೇಳಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವುದು – Description of what they have collected

ಕ್ರಿಯಾಶೀಲರಾಗಿ ಕೇಳಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವುದು – ಕೇಳಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಿರುವ ವಿಷಯದ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ ಕೇಳುವುದು; ಚರ್ಚಿಸುವುದು

ಕೇಳಿಸಿಕೊಂಡು ಮಾಡುವುದು – Craft activity

ಸೂಚನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಅರ್ಥಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವುದು – Instructions before the walk

ಮಾತನಾಡುವುದು

ಮಕ್ಕಳು ತಾವು ನೋಡಿರುವ ಎಲೆಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಮಾತನಾಡುತ್ತಾರೆ

ಮಕ್ಕಳು ಎಲೆಗಳ ಆಕಾರ, ವಿನ್ಯಾಸ, ಬಣ್ಣವನ್ನು ನಿರ್ದಿಷ್ಟವಾಗಿ ಹೇಳುತ್ತಾರೆ

ತಮ್ಮ ಮಾತುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ತಾವು ಕಲಿತ ಹೊಸ ಪದಗಳನ್ನು ಬಳಸುವರು

ತಾವು ಬಿಡಿಸಿದ ಚಿತ್ರಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಮಾತನಾಡುವರು

ಓದುವುದು

ಕತೆ ಓದುವ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಉಹನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಮಾಡುತ್ತಾರೆ

ಚಿತ್ರ ನೋಡಿ ಅದನ್ನು ನಿಜ ಜೀವನದಲ್ಲಿ ಇರುವ ವಸ್ತುಗಳೊಡನೆ ಸಂಬಂಧ ಕಲ್ಪಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಾರೆ ಉದಾಹರಣೆ –ತಾನು ಸಂಗ್ರಹಿಸಿದ ಎಲೆಗೆ ಸೂಕ್ತವಾಗಿರುವ ಚಿತ್ರವನ್ನು ಕಾರ್ಯಹಾಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಗುರುತಿಸುತ್ತಾರೆ

EVS

- Observes and explores environmental objects in the immediate surroundings.
- Shares and reports her/his observations on the collected information/objects/visited place through various ways.
- Appreciates and reflects on her/his observations, work done by self and others.
- Engages actively in sorting the objects by one/two observable features at a time. *E.g., “**sorting objects** on the basis of one/two visible features at a time- (size, colour, shape, classify leaves on the basis of their colour and shapes)”.*
- Groups objects/animals/plants according to **similarities** in relation to their appearance

Specific language

elaboraMixed age group/mixed ability possible

How same activity can be used for different age