



Exploring Nature

2 years—3 years

Objective: The child will explore outside nature while using their senses.

Materials needed:

You and your child!

Outside (with a lot of nature for exploration)

A brown paper bag or Ziploc Bag

White paper

Glue

Procedures:

1. Hand your child their bag. Find a good place outside to explore things with your child.
2. Look for things like rocks, sticks, leaves, grass, dirt, flowers, and bugs.
3. As you explore, have your child collect the items and put them in the bags. You may need to help assist. Of course you will not be able to collect the bugs, they are just for sight-seeing!



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Make sure you say the names of each item you find to help build early language development.

4. Let your child explore on their own. See what they can find. Put them in the bags. If they point to things, teach them what it is they are looking at.
5. When you go back inside, put all of the items on the table. Have your child feel and look at all of the nature they found. Repeat what each item is, and ask them to say its name (I.e. "Can you say rock?")
6. Last, have your child glue the leaves, flowers, sticks, or other nature that is easily applicable to glue onto the white paper; making a nature collage!

Milestones to meet:

The child uses their senses to associate items in nature to their prior knowledge. The child uses their words to say what an object they see is.

Evaluation:

Did this lesson work for your child? Why or why not?