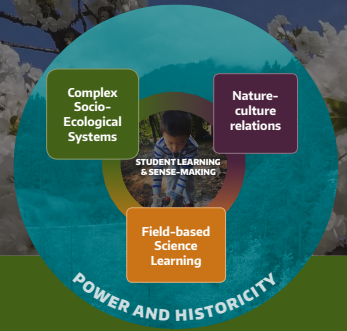


Family Science Learning Engagement



LE 2.B Family Wondering Walk

Activity Purpose

In this activity, take a walk with your family to wonder and notice who and what is in your neighborhood ecosystem. If your family did the Preparing for Outdoors activity (LE 2.1), you can use some of your ideas during that activity to focus your walk. If you haven't, you can look for plants, animals, water, or land features to focus on, or focus on whatever you notice and share what you are wondering about with your family.

Activity Overview

As you walk outside, make observations of what is around you and share these with each other. Observe what you see, hear, smell, or feel. When you find something that is interesting to you, draw or write what you notice and wonder about. What different relationships might the plants and animals be involved in?



Outdoor learning tip

If it's raining or you forget something to write on, you can take pictures of what you notice or simply remember them. You can then draw and write about your noticings and wonderings when you get back inside.

What can you do to support learning?

- » Before you go outdoors, make some predictions about what you think you'll observe. What do you think we'll see outside and why? What signs of the season do you think we'll notice?
- » Allow time for open exploration. In this walk, the most important thing is to observe the world around you! You may start to notice patterns and make connections, which are both important science practices.
- » Ask questions! Sharing ideas is an important part of collaborative learning. As you walk, ask family members questions to support detailed noticing and wondering and offer your own wonderings:
 - What are you noticing? How do you think it came to be like this? What do you think it will look like if we came out tomorrow or next week? Do you think we'll notice the same thing if we walk to another part of our neighborhood?
 - I wonder.... [bring up your own wondering or question]
 - Does this remind you of anything that we've seen before?

Connecting with other families

- » Share this activity with other families and friends. Ask them what they noticed or wondered about on their walks. Take notes and think about these next time you go out! For example, what are some similarities or differences in what you are observing in different areas?

NGSS Science Practices Emphasized

- Asking Questions
- Planning and Carrying Out Investigations
- Obtaining, Evaluating, and Communicating Information

Disciplinary Core Ideas & Important Phenomena

“People use their senses to learn about the world around them. Their eyes detect light, their ears detect sound, and they can feel vibrations by touch.”

“There are many different kinds of living things in any area and they exist in different places on land and in water.”
(K-2; Next Generation Science Standards)

Key Ideas & Practices

Observing

Observing the same thing over and over again (over time, or in multiple places) can deepen our understanding of what we are observing.. By observing phenomena in the world, we can look for patterns or make connections.

Wondering & Asking Questions

Learning happens when we ask questions and wonder about the things we observe in the world. These wonderings and questions can lead to scientific investigations!



CONNECT TO OTHER ACTIVITIES

- Learning Engagement 1.A: Sharing Places Neighborhood Walk
- Learning Engagement 2.A: Preparing for the Outdoors

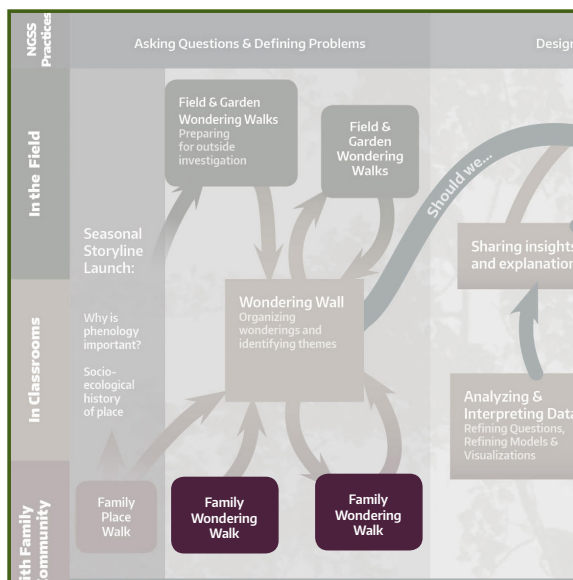
Extension activities:

- Pick one or two of your wonderings and see if your family can find out more information (from a book, a video or a tv show, by asking another person, or searching online). What did your family learn about your wondering(s) from the resources you used? How might you investigate any of your wonderings?
- Think about the relationships you noticed (and wondered about). Have a family discussion about why these relationships might be important to the ecosystem. What other relationships are you curious about and why?

LEARNING IN PLACES FRAMEWORKS TO CONSIDER

- Observations and Data Collection
- Asking Powerful Questions in Field-Based Science

YOUR PLACE IN THE SEASONAL STORYLINE





Taking A Family Wondering Walk

Take a family walk outside. Talk about, draw, and write what you are noticing AND what questions you have about what you are noticing -- your wonderings!

The weather during our walk (you can circle more than one):



The temperature during our walk is: _____

The place we walked is: _____

Find a Plant

Draw or write what you notice that is interesting to you.

We noticed:

Do you notice any relationships that involve this plant? (For example, relationships with other plants, with an animal, with soil, with an insect, with water?)

We wonder:





Find an Animal

Draw or write what you notice that is interesting to you in the space below.

We noticed:

Do you notice any relationships that involve this animal? (For example, relationships with other animals, with a plant, with water?)

We wonder:

Are there other things you noticed on your walk that you observed and wondered about? Draw or write about those here:

