



Find, Look, Think



Name: _____

Explore your outdoor classroom and look for an insect, worm, or snail. (Be careful not to hurt any animal!)

Draw a picture of it.

Where did you find the animal?

- in the grass
- on the ground
- in the soil
- in a tree
- in water or a pond
- on a flower





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1. Is the animal's color dark? light?
2. Is it the same color as
the place you found it? Yes No
3. Is the outside hard? soft?
4. Does it have a shell? Yes No
5. Does it have legs? Yes No
How many? _____
6. Does it have wings? Yes No

Compare an insect, a worm, and a snail. Which one
is Longest? _____

Shortest? _____

In the middle? _____





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Teacher's Tips Page

This is a guided exploration. Be alert to all discoveries - not just the ones described.

Main ideas: Small critters can be fascinating to everyone. Students think like scientists when they make observations and hypothesize answers to questions.

Outdoor Classroom Learning Stations

The entire area of your outdoor classroom can have insects, worms, and snails. Decomposing logs are the first place to look. If you have a worm bin, that's a sure thing.

Note: Spiders are not insects. They have eight legs and insects have six.

Another Note: Caution students about bees and ants that may sting. A student with a known allergy to bee stings can be instructed to deal with worms and snails.

Preparation for Activity

Show pictures or videos of insects, worms, and snails. Insect videos and songs can be found at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jstEyNWqE_I & <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SYawa4piO4k>

Questions for Discussion

How does an animal use its color?

Camouflage - A worm is brown and so is the dirt around it. Moths have patterns that look like tree bark. Humans mimic nature when we use camouflage prints on our clothes.

How does an animal use its shell?

Shells - The snail's shell protects its soft body. A bicycle helmet protects the head.

How does an animal use its legs? Why would it be good to have no legs?

A six-legged insect uses legs to crawl. A no-legged worm tunnels through dirt where legs would just get in the way. A baby crawls with four legs (including arms). A diver streamlines the body by putting arms and legs together so the body shape is like a worm.



Alabama Course of Study Objective Correlations for 1st Grade

Language Arts: 34.) Describe people, places, things, and events with relevant details, expressing ideas and feelings clearly. [SL.1.4]

35.) Add drawings or other visual displays to descriptions when appropriate to clarify ideas, thoughts, and feelings. [SL.1.5]

Math: 15.) Order three objects by length; compare the lengths of two objects indirectly by using a third object. [1-MD1]

Science: 5.) Design a solution to a human problem by using materials to imitate how plants and/or animals use their external parts to help them survive, grow, and meet their needs (e.g., coat imitating animal fur for insulation, gear mimicking tree bark or shells for protection).

