

Nature Collage Activity

Kit Materials & Equipment:

- (2) sheets of Card Stock / student
- (1) roll of double sided tape / student (to stick nature objects to card stock)
- (5) bottles of elmer's glue (to paint onto cardstock and sprinkle soil)
- (1) dixie cup / student (for teachers to distribute the glue and students to paint out of)
- (1) paint brush / student (for glue or mud)
- (1) snack bag of loamy soil or fine sand / students
- (1) paper lunch bag (for collecting nature objects)

Suggested Nature Objects to look for outside:

- Any nature works. Get creative!
- Leaves
- Flowers
- Grass / Ornamental grass
- Twigs / sticks
- Pine Needles
- Pine Cones
 - Pine cone scales
- Dirt / soil
 - Sand
 - Rocks / pebbles
 - Whatever is available nearby

Objectives:

- 1.) Students will observe and collect "natural" objects.
- 2.) Students will create a collage / or image using mostly natural objects found nearby.

Method:

Students will go outside with their paper lunch bag to collect small objects for the nature collage.

Background:

Nature is all around us, just outside the door! By collecting natural objects and creating a nature collage or art project, it will bring the student's focus back to nature.

Activity:**Before the activity:**

1. Have students sit at a desk or outside to complete their Nature Collage.
2. Each student should start with:
 - a. 1 piece of cardstock
 - b. 1 small cup of glue
 - c. 1 paint brush
 - d. 1 roll of double sided tape
 - e. 1 snack bag of soil
 - f. 1 empty paper lunch bag for collecting nature items

Procedure:

1. Ask the students what kind of nature objects they think they could find right outside the school or house.
 - a. Grass, leaves, trees, twigs, soil, water, pinecones, sap, etc.
2. Tell the students they will be watching a short video that shows instructions of how to gather nature objects, and attach them onto cardstock to create a Nature Collage.
3. Challenge them to be creative!

Video Outline:

1. Introduction
 - a. I'm Adam with the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District, here to remind you that nature is all around us.
2. Quick summary of activity
 - a. Here's what we're going to do.
 - i. You're going to take an empty bag, go outside and collect whatever natural objects you can find that can fit into your bag.
 - ii. Then you're going to use those natural objects to create a masterpiece by sticking them to a piece of cardstock using double sided tape and maybe some glue.
 - iii. Here are the supplies you'll have to work with:
 1. Point out the basic supplies
 - a. Glue, paint brush, soil, cups, cardstock
3. Instructions
 - a. Now everyone is going to take their paper bag and head outside!
 - b. Once outside, spread out and collect small natural objects that can fit you're your paper bag.
 - i. Do NOT rip off flower heads or damage living plants unless the teacher gives you permission.
 - ii. Here's what I collected!
 - c. Pine needles, pine cone, soil, leaves, flower petals, rocks
 - d. Here's what I made: Ta Da!
4. Wrap up
 - a. Now it's your turn! Everyone grab your bags, head outside and collect your nature object! Remember, everything has to fit into your small paper bag.
 - b. Have FUN!
 - c. Think about all the nature that's around you that we don't usually think about!
 - d. How did it get there?
 - i. Wind? Gravity? An animal? Human? Erosion? Other ways?