

the beauty

of

4

nature

Photovoice

Introduction to the activity

This activity is designed to help you identify elements in your environment that represent the beauty of nature, and to discuss nature and how it makes you feel.

Time required

The activity can be carried out in two stages. Once to go outside and take photos in your environment (schoolyard, short walk in the neighborhood, etc.). Then, another session can be organized to present the photos and discuss the week's theme.

- 30 minutes to go outside and take photos.
- 45 minutes to share the photos (25 minutes) and discuss the theme of nature (20 minutes)

Equipment required



Child-friendly cameras *



Projecteur/tableau blanc interactif/écran assez grand pour voir les photos.

* Ideally, each child should have a camera to take photos during the outing. You may use the iPads from school. Cameras can also be used and found on Kijiji or Marketplace, for example, or by asking parents if they still have digital cameras. You can also buy new cameras online (for example: <https://kidamento.com/products/kids-camera-model-k-sloth>). You can also buy a polaroid camera to print photos directly, one student at a time (for example: <https://www.deserres.ca/fr/products/kids-instant-camera-panda-model-p?variant=40048417079429#product-details>). Finally, you can choose to use your cell phone and have the students take their photos one at a time once they've found the object in their photo.

Group organization



Photos are taken individually.

Each child should have a photo to present. You may allow them to take more than one picture during the outing, but they must ultimately choose one. It may be difficult to remember who took which picture, make sure you write their names on the cameras, make a note directly on your phone, etc. to keep track of whose picture is whose.



Photos are shared with the group using a projector, interactive whiteboard, large screen, etc., and students can sit in a semi-circle in front of the screen. The presenting child can stand up to present his/her photo.



Group discussion takes place in a large circle, with everyone seated on the floor so that everyone can see each other and feel included.

Procedure and instructions

Photos outside

We will take photos outside to represent the theme of the beauty of nature. The idea is to be able to share your perspective through photography, and therefore that your photo is like a way of seeing through your eyes.

As usual, the goal is not to take a perfectly framed photo, we can try to be spontaneous, so not to think too much and take pictures that we want to capture instantaneously. If we do not know what to take a photo of, we can let ourselves be guided by our inner feelings, sometimes beauty gives us pleasant physical sensations. By remaining attentive to these signals, we can know what we find beautiful in nature.

Presentation of photos

For the presentation of the photos, students can present their photo each their turn. You can ask them to think of the following elements which can be written on the board to remind them:

- What do you see in the photo?
- What is happening here?
- How is this related to your lives?
- Why does this exist?
- What do we do with it?

The person who took the photo can start by describing their photo, the elements that are present in it, why they chose to take this specific picture, etc.

Then, the other students can intervene and describe their reaction to the picture, in particular by answering the questions above.

It is possible that several photos have the same subject or the same main elements. A collage of the photos can be made to see all the photos at the same time and distinguish the different elements and allow the students who took these photos to see if their perceptions are the same, etc.

There are many elements from our environment that remind of that nature is beautiful. Sometimes we might forget to look at them, but maybe this can be a reminder to take the time and observe nature around us.

Examples of artwork

