

the
power
of
nature

5



Presentation of the activity

This activity is used to explore the emotion of awe through the theme of the power of nature. The power of nature is represented by each student through a Lego or modeling clay sculpture.

Time required

The activity lasts a total of 1 hour.

- 30 minutes to present the instructions and make the sculpture.
- 30 minutes to share your work and for the discussion on the theme of the power of nature.

Required materials

-  Various Lego with plates.
-  Modeling clay.
-  Optional: recycling elements (toilet paper roll, etc.), colored pipe cleaners, etc.

Group organization

 The Lego activity is done individually, with each student in their place. The workshop also works well in teams of two.

 The group discussion is done in a large circle, with each student sitting on the floor so that everyone can see each other and feel included.

Procedure and instructions

Individually or in subgroups of 2 students, we will make a sculpture of something in nature that is impressive and that represents the power of nature. What does it mean that it is impressive? It is something that makes us go 'wow', something immense, intense, beautiful or scary, you are free to choose. (If necessary, give examples: A large waterfall, a mountain, a volcano, a forest fire...)

We will make the sculpture with Lego or modeling clay, so it is possible that the colors are not representative of reality. Try to see what this does to you, is it frustrating, fun?

If you use modeling clay/PayDoh, you can use several colors but be careful not to mix the colors too much so that we can reuse the modeling clay later.

Consider making the artworks on a solid, portable surface so that the children can bring their artwork to the discussion circle.

Sharing the works

- Go and sit in a circle on the floor with the finished sculptures.
- Everyone presents/shares their sculpture
- Do we see similarities amongst sculptures?
- What did it feel like to sculpt these impressive elements?

Philosophical discussion on the theme of the power of nature

- How do you react to what others have done?
- What emotions do you observe during/ after the activity?
- Is there anything impressive about this power?
- What is impressive about this power?
- How can this power be scary?
- How do we react when there is an event that reminds us of the power of nature? (E.g., the forest fires this summer)
- Is it different when it's here or elsewhere?
- Do we tend to forget nature's power?

Last week we saw that nature can be beautiful, sometimes this beauty can impress us, but nature can also be intense, as we saw with volcanoes. This is the power of nature, it can be both beautiful, creating life, and scary, destructive. Would you like to add a new emotion to your climate emotion wheel? This could be the emotion of 'awe': feeling respect mixed with fear or wonder.

Examples of artworks



A waterfall



A cherry tree in bloom



Trees through the seasons



A forest fire