

Nature Journal Prompt

Topic: Colors in Nature

Things to notice: The color of a living thing has meaning. What are the colors of the different parts of a plant or animal? How bright are the colors? Have the colors changed since the last time you looked? Are the colors the same all year? How many different shades of the same color are there? For example, how many shades of green are in the leaves of the plants you see? How common is a color in nature? Are many things the same color? If you look closely at something are there more than one color? Do birds, insects, and mammals have the same or different colors? Is the color flat or iridescent?

nonliving things: How light or dark are the clouds? Is the color of soil different the deeper you dig? Does the color change if it is wet or dry (soil and rock). How does the color of the sky change as the day goes by?

Questions to ask:

Plants: Do you think the color of the part of the plant has something to do with the job of that part? For example, a green leaf captures sunlight and a red flower might attract a bee. Does the color show that the plant is healthy, sick, or dead? If the color has changed over time why?

Animals: Is the animal trying to blend in or stand out? Why? Darker colors hold more heat than lighter colors. Do you think this has anything to do with the color of an animal you see? Are the nose and feet the same color as the rest of the animal?

For parents:

Take your child on a color scavenger hunt. You can start with a color wheel that you make at home. Go outside and find things in nature that match each color. Have the child write down or draw what he/she finds that matches the color.