



MATH NATURE WALKS

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DIRECTIONS

Print posters in black and white or in colour.

I ordered mine through Staples so that I could get good quality paper, which then lends itself to be fairly weather-proofed. I displayed the posters around the school grounds. We took our students on a nature walk and stopped at each poster. We discussed the prompts as a group. Then the learners had time to explore the questions by themselves or in partners. When you think the learners are ready, bring everyone together to share their mathematical observations. Then you can walk to the next poster and repeat the process.

Talk to your learners about the expectations of learning and playing outdoors **BEFORE** going on your math nature walk. Are they allowed to pick flowers? Are they allowed to collect rocks or long sticks? After using the materials, do they put them back where they found them?

Materials:

- *print off the posters
- *colour swatches from hardware stores

FIND MY NUMBER

What numbers can you find in nature?

Can you count your objects?

How do you know how many you have?

What number comes before? After?

Which number is bigger? Smaller?

WHAT'S THE ORDER?

Collect 5 different objects (e.g., sticks, rocks). Next, order them according to size.

Which one is the longest?
Shortest?

Which one is the widest?
Thinnest?

Which one is the heaviest?
Lightest?

How do you know?

HOW HIGH CAN YOU GO?

Collect a group of objects that you can use to build a tower.

Which object would make a good base? Why?

Do you think you can use all your objects? Was it easy or hard?

What could you do if it falls down?

Would you rebuild it differently or the same way?

LET'S MOVE IT!

There are shapes all around us. Let's explore how they move.

Can you find a shape that rolls? Slides? Stacks?

Look at the things that roll. What is the same about all of them?

What about the objects that stack? Or slide?

What else do you notice about shapes in nature?

COLOUR HUNT & SORT

Hunt for items in our area that match the colour of your colour swatch.

What colour is it? How would you describe it?

What other things do you know that are the same colour?

Is your object darker or lighter than your colour swatch?

What does this colour remind you of?

OPPOSITES ATTRACT

Let's search for pairs of objects that are opposites of each other.

Can you find something bumpy and smooth?

Can you find something hard and soft?

Can you find something dull and shiny?

Can you find something big and small?

ONCE UPON A TIME...

Collect objects from around you. Can you create a number story using your objects?

Do you have a problem and solution?

What inspired you to tell this story?

Do you have a beginning, middle, and end to the story?

Where does the math live in your story?