

1. Divide your class into groups of three or four students. Explain that they are going on an unusual scavenger hunt. The first thing they need to do is determine the object based on the description.
2. Give them area boundaries and a time limit (1/2 hour or so).
3. Ask them to be careful not to rip off or up living plants or animals.
4. Explain that when they've found the objects, they should bring them back to the gathering place to be checked off the list.
5. Distribute lists of items and ask for questions before they go on the hunt. Now go scavenge!
6. At the end of the time limit, gather the group together, go through each item, and discuss. Keep from using this as a competitive activity; sometimes competition gets in the way of learning.
7. You may wish to review certain concepts that were missed consistently or take them beyond these concepts. It can also be fun to have the kids make up their own scavenger hunts and try them out on each other.

TIME:

45-60 min.

PROCESSING QUESTIONS:

WHAT?

- What was the hardest thing to figure out?
- Were the rules fair? (Did the same rules apply to everyone?)

SO WHAT?

- What was the best way for your group to find things that fit the description?
- How did your group work together?
- Was there a leader for your group?

NOW WHAT?

- Do you think some things may be easier to do as a group rather than alone?
- Why do you think so?

Thinker's Scavenger Hunt

- Dead leaf from a deciduous tree
- Needles from a coniferous tree
- Small piece of a living, growing thing that makes sugar out of sunlight
- Empty chewing gum wrapper
- Non-biodegradable piece of litter
- Pocketful of decaying leaves.
- Jar full of a clear gas, which is a life-giving substance
- Drawing of something that recycles waste
- Empty soda can
- Plant seed adapted for dispersal by wind
- Wild seed that attracts birds
- Oak tree fruit that deer eat
- 5-word description of a bird (one of the words should be its name)
- Leaf from a solid, woody plant that keeps its leaves green all winter
- Something that doesn't belong in nature (and why)

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