TAKE IT OUTSIDE! -

Leaf Hunter Second Grade



Location

Any area where trees are present.

This activity should be completed during the weeks when leaves are falling from the trees.

Activity Length

30-60 minutes

Materials Needed

Paper bags / containers of your choice

Preparation

None

Activity

- Students collect some leaves, using their bags to hold their leaf collection.
- Ask the students to help identify the trees that produced the leaves they collected. What did the trees need (water, sunlight, soil) to grow and produce leaves?
- Are there areas where trees are sparse or absent? If so, why aren't there many trees in these areas?
- Ask students if they believe the trees in the study area grow in very different habitats (e.g., dry, hot, cold, wet, sunny, shady). Tell the students that trees are adapted to environments in which they live. Other tree species grow and thrive in habitats different from the students' study site. Discuss some types of trees found in several different habitats.
- Each student sorts and counts their own leaves.
- Team up to compare leaves and sort together.
- Students share findings with the whole group. Discuss the students' findings.

Standards Connections

- Next Generation Science Standards 2-LS1-1, 2-LS4-1
- NRC Framework

Scientific & Engineering Practices: 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

Crosscutting Concepts: 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 Disciplinary Core Ideas: LS2-A, LS4

• Common Core State Standards

ELA/Literacy: W.2.8 Mathematics: MP.2

Activity compiled by FRJUSD teachers and Spring Rivers Foundation.

