“Comparison of Blue Light Sensitivity-1993” and a study of symmetry using photographs of Oedopeza leucostigma in “Organic Lace-2001.” In addition, the caption of each photograph is concise and offers students the opportunity to explore the role that technology has played in our understanding of life and the universe.

Additional applications could focus on careers, or the use of photography in diagnostic procedures in modern medicine. Further, the photographs allow students to identify/study various structures that may automatically lead to a study of function.

Young students left on their own are naturally curious. This book encourages students to use their imagination and to seek more information for comparison and future reference. Student interpretations and attitudes about pictures are more valuable when the photographs are used along with other resources such as computers, textbooks, and laboratory exercises.

Developing integrated units of study using this resource as an introduction or culmination would not only stimulate students, but would also serve as an opportunity for them to be creative and resourceful. As an open-ended technique, students brainstorming in small and large groups could generate discussions in which quality ideas can be related to a particular photograph or groups of photographs.

A collection of photographs of this nature could be used in a variety of ways providing students and teachers a myriad of opportunities to use their creativity in the teaching-learning process.

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CHILDREN’S BOOKS


Do you want your students to explore nature and improve their observation skills? This engaging take-along guide provides common, easy-to-read facts about living and nonliving things in their environment. The guide describes 129 organisms and artifacts students can find while exploring various ecosystems. Each entry includes colorful pictures, a written description of its appearance, where to find it, what it eats, and other interesting facts. Explicit recommendations and special warnings (if needed) are provided for young explorers without adult supervision. The book is divided into five nature trails and each trail ends with “something to do.” These are very fun, hands-on activities. Students can record their observations on scrapbook pages and data sheets provided in the guide.

On the first nature trail, students observe berries, nuts, and seeds. They are asked to make watercolor paint with the berries they find, make a nutshell bird feeder with the nuts and seeds they collect, and plant a seed garden with the seeds they gather.

On the second nature trail, students observe birds, nests, and eggs. They are asked to make a tent out of an old sheet or blanket to hide themselves from the birds while they are bird watching, make a shower bath for birds, and make a hang-down suet feeder.

On the third nature trail, students observe rocks, fossils, and arrowheads. They are asked to make rock candy, create a fossil, design a friendship necklace, and make an arrowhead display.

On the fourth nature trail, students observe seashells, crabs, and sea stars. They are asked to make a jingle-jangle wind chime, create a striped sand display, make a seashore treasure chest display, and make their own seashells.

On the fifth nature trail, students observe wildflowers, blooms, and blossoms. The students are asked to make a wildflower paperweight, make a friendship band, preserve a wildflower, and make a container rainbow.

This delightful guide can be used to introduce inquiry to younger students. These experiences can take “I notice” and “I wonder” to whole new levels. Parents can use these activities to create authentic learning experiences for their children during the summer vacation months.

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