

Family Nature Club Newsletter

June 8th-14th

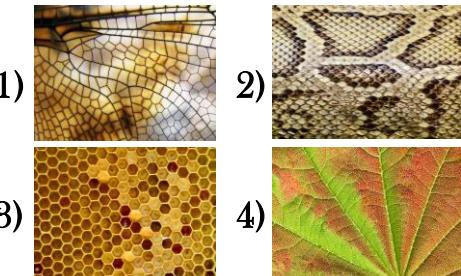
Spending time outdoors is not only great for your health, but it is a great way to pass the time. Use these activities and additional resources to help you stay busy during this time at home!

Nature Under a Microscope

Why do some scientists use microscopes?

Sometimes scientists use microscopes to look at things we can't see with the human eye, but often they use microscopes to examine microscopic (tiny) characteristics of large organisms. It's surprising what you can see when you look at things up close, especially in nature! The tiny characteristics of some plants and animals are not only interesting to see but are also extremely important in identifying what species they are!

See if you can identify what these pictures taken under a microscope are of down below! Find the answers in the blue oval at the bottom of the page!



Instructions

1. Using scissors cut a large hole in the bottom of the cup.
2. Stretch a piece of plastic wrap over the top of the cup and secure it with a rubber band.
3. Go outside and collect multiple items in nature you want to look at up close (leaves, seeds, flowers, grass, moss, etc.)
4. Place one object at a time in the cup through the hole.
5. Pour a little bit of water on top of the cling wrap.

Now look at the object through the water! The water acts as a lens and makes your item look larger!



Materials:

- Sticks
- Black & colored paint
- Ribbon/string

Steps:

1. Go on a walk to collect several long sticks.
2. Paint the sticks black and let dry.
3. Decorate the sticks with different colors and patterns.
4. Tie string or ribbon to the top and you're done!



Now try **creating your own microscope** and use it to take a closer look at the nature in your backyard!

Materials:

- Plastic cup
- Plastic wrap
- Rubber band
- Scissors
- Water



Microscope Picture Answers:

1. Dragonfly Wing
2. Snakeskin
3. Bee Honeycomb
4. Maple Leaf

Article of the Week

"A Social Movement for Conservation"

Click here:

https://ssir.org/articles/entry/a_social_movement_for_conservation?fbclid=IwA R2509fb0wS66YuNtBWx GBvSFgs1CelMqWCgFq apDrPVhtjML3IMdQE GwU

Additional Resources

- Explore Hawaii's Volcanoes National Park: <https://artsandculture.withgoogle.com/en-us/national-parks-service/hawaii-volcanoes/nahuku-lava-tube-tour>
- Watch an elephant cam at Reid Park Zoo in Arizona: <https://www.auroragov.org/cms/One.aspx?portallId=1881221&pageId=16552754>
- Explore the rooms of the national aquarium: <http://samuraivirtualtours.com/example/nadc/index.html>
- Learn about the coral reefs of Palau: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4-AWW9cCwi8&feature=youtu.be>