

## Exploring the Nature Table

**Purpose:** The purpose of this activity is to introduce the child to objects found in nature.

**Directions:** While at the nature table the child will name each item found, on the table, before handling them. They will use both hands to gently turn the object carefully observing all parts of the objects. After returning the object to the table the child will pick up the magnifying glass by the handle, using their dominant hand and carefully examine the object.

**Extensions:** An extension to 'Exploring the Nature Table' is having the table divided into 2 parts where there is an eye side and a hand side. Items on the hand side can be manipulated by the child and items on the eye side can only be viewed using the magnifying glass. A second extension is having children create



nature rubbing. The child will choose an object from the nature table and place the object under a piece of paper. They will tape the corners of the paper to the table to keep it in place. The child will hold a crayon horizontally and gently rub it across the paper so the shape and texture of the object appears.

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