

Adventure Hunt

Parent Notes: This is a great observation activity. Answers for some of these may vary based on preference. Some answers will be exact. (i.e. smallest and largest trees). Use measuring tools like tape measures, thermometers or even a camera/cell phone camera for number one - "best view". Views do not always have to be vast, far and wide. Henry David Thoreau said "Nature will bear the closest inspection. She invites us to lay our eye level with her smallest leaf and take an insect view of its plain." Challenge your student to think outside the box on what "great view" may be; for an insect, frog, mammal etc... Who can capture the coolest view with a camera?

Considerations: Review Leave No Trace Principles before beginning an activity/lesson. Be sure you can identify poison ivy. Check for ticks after each adventure. Wear appropriate shoes or clothing. But most importantly, have fun with this activity.

Let's Begin:

Use your senses to explore around your home! Try making a map of all the things you find. You can put your cabin, tent, or lodge in the center of the map and use words or pictures to show where you found the following things:

1. The best view of nature
2. The best place to listen for nature sounds
3. The warmest place
4. The coldest place
5. The biggest tree
6. The smallest tree
7. The place with the strongest smell
8. The place with the most animals (insects are animals too!)
9. The place with the least animals
10. The place you like best

Extensions:

Utilize a park map and have students mark the above items on that map while hiking.