



Education Bureau



Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Countryside Adventure

Learning Activity Resource Package
Education Bureau

Teacher's Guide





B. Arboretum Area

Activities “Little Explorers” and “I Love the Nature” can be conducted in this area.

Area Introduction

AFCD Lions Nature Education Centre is surrounded by forest and woodland. Apart from the seasonal crops in the Field Crops, a variety of trees and fruit trees are grown in other areas. Children can have observations and explorations in this area, surrounded by tall trees. They can conduct various kinds of games in the spacious open area, appreciate and enjoy the fun provided by the nature, so

as to nurture children’s awareness in care for the environment and preserving trees.

Safety Precautions

- Teachers should remind children not to walk away from the designated activity area.
- Teachers should remind children of safety when collecting the required items (such

Activity Area: **B. Arboretum Area**

Activity 3 : Little Explorers

Activity 4 : I Love the Nature



- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| A Geopark Visitor Centre | E Insectarium |
| B Fisheries Hall | F Rock Classroom |
| C Agriculture Hall | G Rock Academy |
| D Shell House | |

as leaves, twigs or branches, etc.) for the activity. Teacher should observe children and prevent them from touching sharp or dangerous objects.

- Children will touch trees or leaves in the activity, teachers should arrange children to wash their hands afterwards.

Design Rationale

- Trees are the important natural resources in the nature, and closely related to human life. Not only can trees make the environment more appealing and improve the air quality, but also provide shelters for birds. Children see trees in their daily lives, but not necessarily woodland or forest, and they may not be able to touch trees.
- In the third activity “Little Explorers”, children can experience being surrounded by the woodland, observe the characteristics of different trees carefully, admire the appearance and beauty of trees, so as to bring forth the message of treasuring and preserving trees.
- In the fourth activity “I Love the Nature”, apart from observing and exploring the trees, children can enjoy playing various group games in the spacious outdoor environment. This does not only provide children with sufficient space to stretch their gross and fine motor muscles, it also allows them to learn and help one another. When children engage in play, they can also learn about the early mathematics and science concepts, so children can enjoy learning through play in the nature.
- The group games for the three class levels are only proposed activities, teachers may adjust according to children’s interest and ability.

Teaching Skills

- Teachers should be open-minded and encourage children to explore freely and solve problems.
- During the exploratory activities, teachers should allow children to freely choose what to observe and explore under safe conditions. There is no need to force or restrict children to use tools; for example, they can just use their eyes and hands to observe and touch the trees.
- During free exploration/creation, teachers should observe children’s performance to provide guidance and appropriate assistance when needed; yet avoid dominating/interrupting children’s exploration/creation process.
- Teachers should remind children to love the nature, not to take away any stones, fallen leaves or branches in the area. Therefore, teachers are recommended to bring along a camera to record children’s creative work.
- Teachers can use words or pictures to record the process of the activities. When inviting children to share, teachers can write down their interesting questions and discoveries for further exploration and sharing at school.
- According to actual situations and children’s interests, teachers may conduct extended activities at school.

Activity 4: I Love the Nature



Proposed Class Level	K1
Name of Area	Arboretum Area
Proposed Number of Participants	6 people in a group
Duration	Around 30 minutes
Teaching Aids/ Materials	Collect from the activity area: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural materials
Children's Developmental Characteristics 3-4 years old	Able to make simple comparison of size and classification as they have basic spatial concept
Proposed Learning Objectives	<p>[Knowledge] Children are able to know the interesting things and places related to the nature</p> <p>[Skill] Children are able to use their senses to explore the natural environment</p> <p>[Attitude] Children are able to enjoy the fun of group games in the nature</p>
Focus of Activity	Enable children to use natural materials collected from the nature to conduct activities, so as to nurture their care for the nature.
Proposed Activity Plan (Procedures)	<p>Introduction Teacher explores with children and asks them: What do you see on the ground?</p> <p>Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher invites children to observe and examine the rocks and fallen leaves on the ground. • Teacher invites them to collect different leaves and stones.



- Teacher guides them to classify, compare and contrast the leaves and stones.
- Teacher invites them to play the game “Blowing Strong Wind”. Children may set up their own game rules under teacher’s guidance.
- Teacher asks 6 children to choose a tree together and surround it by holding one another’s hands.
- Teacher invites them to close their eyes and hear the nature quietly.
- Teacher invites them to take a deep breath to smell the air of the surroundings.
- Teacher invites them to open their eyes to look up the tree, and asks them: What do you see?
- Teacher invites them to share one interesting discovery.

Conclusion (Sharing)

Teacher invites children to share their feelings to bring out the beauty of the nature.

Possible Adjustments

Teacher must note that children may not be familiar with or have no idea how to use their senses to explore the nature. It would be appropriate for teacher to slow down the pace and let children relax after the group game, then guide them to use hearing, smell and sight to explore the nature.

Reference Questions for Teachers

(Select questions according to circumstances and in line with the proposed learning objectives)

Teacher mainly guides children to feel the nature and think about how to make use of the natural materials for creative work and play, so as to appreciate the beauty of the nature and the functions of trees and woodland.

Before the Activity

- What can you find or collect from the ground?

During the Activity

- How can you make use of the natural materials collected to play games?
- How do you feel when you close your eyes?
- What can you hear?
- What can you smell?

After the Activity

- Can you share about the most special or favourite thing in this area?



Extended Activities Based on the rationale of this activity, teachers may develop other extended activities to fit into the themes of the school-based curriculum, for example:

Activity 1

At school, teachers can continue to discuss with children on the function of trees. Teachers invite them to find out various wooden objects in campus or at home, so children will gain deeper understanding of the importance of trees in human life. Therefore, we should treasure and care for trees and woodland, for example, we should reduce paper consumption or avoid using disposable paper cups or wooden chopsticks, etc., to instill the concept of reducing waste source and recycling for environmental protection.

Activity 2

Teachers can invite children to draw their favourite scenery of the AFCD Lions Nature Education Centre in the Children Activity Booklet, and encourage them to show their drawings to parents and friends to share the message of protecting trees and woodland.



Proposed Class Level	K2
Name of Area	Arboretum Area
Proposed Number of Participants	6-8 people in a group
Duration	Around 30-45 minutes
Teaching Aids/ Materials	<p>Collect from the activity area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural materials <p>Prepared by teachers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rainbow parachutes • Beach balls • Tennis balls • Cameras
Children's Developmental Characteristics 4-5 years old	Start to have cooperative play with peers
Proposed Learning Objectives	<p>[Knowledge] Children are able to know that the nature provides us with beautiful environment</p> <p>[Skill] Children are able to work with peers in the activities</p> <p>[Attitude] Children are able to enjoy the fun of playing group games in the nature</p>
Focus of Activity	Enable children to use natural materials for creative work and conduct play activities in the woodland, so to experience the beauty of and fun in the nature.
Proposed Activity Plan (Procedures)	<p>Introduction Teacher explores with children and asks them: What do you see on the ground?</p> <p>Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher invites children to use the leaves and stones collected from the ground to arrange in different patterns. • After children finish their creative work, teacher can use camera to take pictures of their work.



- Teacher invites children to compare and contrast the patterns and share their views.
- Teacher asks children to form in groups of 6-8, then hold hands to form a circle.
- Teacher distributes a “rainbow parachute” to each group, children can cooperate and shake it together.
- Teacher guides children to compare their experience of playing “rainbow parachute” in the spacious outdoor area and at school. What are the differences? (teacher may mention the functions of wind force)
- Teacher distributes a beach / tennis ball to each group, children can place the ball on the parachute to roll around.
- Teacher changes the ball for children and asks them to compare and contrast which ball weighs heavier. What are the differences when using different balls? (teacher may mention the rolling speed of an object on the “rainbow parachute” is related to the weight of the object).

Conclusion (Discussion and Sharing)

Teacher invites children to share their feelings to bring out the beauty of the nature and multiple functions of trees, so as to appreciate the nature and care for trees and woodland.

Possible Adjustments

When playing with a “rainbow parachute”, children may discover different phenomena. Teachers can discuss with children according to their interests and ability.

Reference Questions for Teachers

(Select questions according to circumstances and in line with the proposed learning objectives)

Teacher mainly guides children to feel the nature and think about how to make use of the natural materials for creative work and play, so as to appreciate the beauty of the nature and the functions of trees and woodland.

Before the Activity

- What can you find and collect from the ground?

During the Activity

- What can we do with the natural materials collected earlier?
- How can you make use of the collected materials to create a beautiful picture?

After the Activity

- What are the differences between playing games here and at school?
- What would happen if there were no trees in this place?



Extended Activities Based on the rationale of this activity, teachers may develop other extended activities to fit into the themes of the school-based curriculum, for example:

Activity 1

At school, teachers can continue to discuss with children on the function of trees. Teachers invite them to find out various wooden objects in campus or at home, so children will gain deeper understanding of the importance of trees in human life. Therefore, we should treasure and care for trees and woodland, for example, we should reduce paper consumption or avoid using disposable paper cups or wooden chopsticks, etc., to instill the concept of reducing waste source and recycling for environmental protection.

Activity 2

Teachers can invite children to draw their favourite scenery of the AFCD Lions Nature Education Centre in the Children Activity Booklet, and encourage them to show their drawings to parents and friends to share the message of protecting trees and woodland.



Proposed Class Level	K3
Name of Area	Arboretum Area
Proposed Number of Participants	8 people in a group
Duration	Around 30-45 minutes
Teaching Aids/ Materials	Collect from the activity area: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural materials Prepared by teachers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cameras
Children's Developmental Characteristics 5-6 years old	Able to understand the principle of fairness and try to design their own games and game rules
Proposed Learning Objectives	<p>[Knowledge] Children are able to know that the nature provides us with a beautiful environment</p> <p>[Skill] Children are able to create large-scale collage work and conduct group games with peers</p> <p>[Attitude] Children are able to treasure the nature</p>
Focus of Activity	Enable children to use natural materials for creative work and conduct group games in the woodland, so as to understand the close relationship between human beings and the nature.
Proposed Activity Plan (Procedures)	<p>Introduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher explores with children and asks them: What do you see on the ground? <p>Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher invites children to form in groups of 6-8, each of them has to collect different leaves, stones, twigs and branches. • Then teacher asks each group of children to find a space to create a large-scale collage work together on the ground using the materials just collected. • When they finish, teacher can use camera to take pictures of their work.



- Teacher can invite children to create group games, making good use of space in the nature to conduct different kinds of running and jumping, or gross motor activities.
- During the activity, teachers should pay attention to children's safety. Teachers may use a whistle or bell to serve as a reminder or terminate the activity if needed.

Conclusion (Discussion and Sharing)

Teacher invites children to share their feelings to bring out the beauty of the nature and multiple functions of trees, so as to appreciate the nature and care for trees and woodland, as well as to understand that trees provide shelters for many animals.

Possible Adjustments

- Though children are able to conduct cooperative play, they may still encounter conflicts. Teacher can intervene and guide them to complete the group collage work and game in a timely manner.
- When engaging in group games, children can apply some early mathematics concepts, such as counting and space. Teacher can observe them and provide guidance if needed.

Reference Questions for Teachers

(Select questions according to circumstances and in line with the proposed learning objectives)

Teacher mainly guides children to feel the nature and think about how to make use of the natural materials for creative work and play, so as to appreciate the beauty of the nature and the functions of trees and woodland.

Before the Activity

- What can you find and collect from the ground?

During the Activity

- What can we do with the natural materials collected earlier?
- How can you make use of the collected materials to create a beautiful picture?
- What are the differences between playing games here and at school?

After the Activity

- What are the functions of trees?
- If there were no trees on the earth, what would happen?
- What are the methods to protect our trees, and our woodland?



Extended Activities Based on the rationale of this activity, teachers may develop other extended activities to fit into the themes of the school-based curriculum, for example:

Activity 1

At school, teachers can continue to discuss with children on the functions of trees. Teachers invite them to find out various wooden objects in campus or at home, so children will gain deeper understanding of the importance of trees in human life. Therefore, we should treasure and care for trees and woodland, for example, we should reduce paper consumption or avoid using disposable paper cups or wooden chopsticks, etc., to instill the concept of reducing waste source and recycling for environmental protection.

Activity 2

Teachers can invite children to draw their favourite scenery of the AFCD Lions Nature Education Centre in the Children Activity Booklet, and encourage them to show their drawings to parents and friends to share the message of protecting trees and woodland.

