

Kindergarten Pre and Post Visit Activities

Recommended Reading:

The Very Quiet Cricket by Eric Carle

Pond Circle by Betsy Franco

Trout Are Made Of Trees by April Pulley Sayre

The Sun Is My Favourite Star by Frank Asch

Are You A Snail? By Judy Allen and Tudor Humphries

A Log's Life by Wendy Pfeffer

Bug Hunt by Neecey Twinem

A Grand Old Tree by Mary Newell DePalma

Possible Pre-Trip Experiences:

- A community/playground walk to notice and wonder natural occurrences in the school community
- Begin a Know, Wonder, Learn (KWL) chart to bring with you to Forest Valley to guide our inquiry
- Begin a classroom inquiry that could be further investigated further at Forest Valley based on a key wondering from the students (e.g. Where does the water go after it rains? Why do the leaves change colours? Where do insects come from? Where do animals or birds live? How does a tree grow?)
- Engage students in collecting natural objects that can be used in classroom and/or outdoor learning centres (e.g. natural sculptures, adding rocks in the block centre, and using natural materials for math manipulatives)
- Subscribe to Forest Valley's YouTube Channel and watch our Forest Valley Kindergarten Learning Back at School playlist for more ideas to support inquiry and outdoor learning
- Reading books related to the natural world

Possible Follow-up Activities:

- A community/playground walk to notice and wonder natural occurrences in the school community
- Continue a Know, Wonder, Learn (KWL) chart to sustain the inquiry and document the learning
- Sustain the inquiry about the natural environment by continuing to explore the questions that the students were not yet able to answer at Forest Valley (e.g. Why are there more critters at Forest Valley than at our school? Where do the birds go when it is cold? How can we take care of trees?)
- Investigate the similarities and differences between the school yard and Forest Valley
- Collaborate with Eco Schools to improve outdoor learning at your school
- Build bird feeders out of recycled materials

- Learn how to grow plants in and outside of the classroom
- Use some of the ideas from Forest Valley to bring some learning centres outside to sustain the inquiry
- Engage students in collecting natural objects that can be used in classroom and/or outdoor learning centres (e.g. natural sculptures, adding rocks in the block centre, and using natural materials for math manipulatives)