

# Exploration and Investigation

## Tree Exploration

Go for a walk in your school yard or nearby nature and invite students to choose a special tree they would like to explore. Encourage students to think about the following questions:

- How is the tree similar or different from the ones around it?
- Is the tree a home for an animal? What animal might live in this tree?
- Is the tree alive? How do you know?
- What signs of winter can you spot around your tree?



## Ice Sun Catcher

Give each student a pie plate or other circular shaped collection tray and go on a nature item collection walk.

Each student should collect at least 5 different items from nature that are different colors, sizes, and textures and place them in their tray.

Join two ends of a string together and place it inside the tray, leaving the looped end hanging out. Fill each tray with water and place them outside to freeze overnight.

Find a special place in your school yard to hang the ice ornaments. You could even host an “Ice Art” gallery, where each ice artist describes their piece to the rest of the students.



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