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Anytime is Learning Time.

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Arthur's Green Thumb

Encourage your child to have a green thumb! In this activity, children have the chance to grow beans from the ground up and create their very own garden.

Materials

- 1. beans (pole, lima, or snap beans are easy to grow)
- **2.** fork
- 3. marker
- 4. masking tape

- 5. old soup cans (for planters)
- 6. potting soil
- 7. gravel or pebbles
- 8. Arthur's Green Thumb Planter Label Worksheet

Directions Grow and care for plants with your children.

- **1. Prepare:** Soak the beans overnight so they will grow faster.
- 2. Plant: Talk with your children about plants, explaining that plants need water and light to live. Help each child fill a can no more than ¼ full with a small amount of gravel or small pebbles. Then fill each can no more than ¾ full with potting soil. Plant the beans that have been soaked overnight under a shallow layer of dirt (one or two beans per can). Children can make labels for their planters using the Arthur's Green Thumb: Planter Label Worksheet. Place the cans in a sunny area.
- **3. Nurture:** Show children how to water their beans every day or two so that the soil is moist but not wet, and discuss how the plants change as they grow.

Take It Further

Teach your child how to be good to the environment by playing **Groovy Garden!**

This game will teach your child little tips and tricks that will help them be greener in their daily routine.



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Arthur's Green Thumb: Planter Label Worksheet

Create labels for your new garden planters!

Directions

- **1.** Using the boxes below, create labels for your new plants. You can write your name, the type of plant, or color on the label!
- 2. Cut out the label and tape onto the outside of your planter!



Making Leaf and Bark Rubbings

What You Need:

- Trees
- Plain white paper and crayons with label removed
- Masking tape (optional)
- Cardboard or clipboard
- Paper bag for collecting leaves
- **1.** Take some blank paper, masking tape (optional), and crayons outside. Look for several trees with different types of bark and leaves.
- **2.** Close your eyes and feel the bark of the trees. How does it feel? Which one is the smoothest? The roughest?
- **3.** Use tape to hold a piece of paper on the trunk or hold the paper tightly. Lightly rub a crayon horizontally over the surface of the paper on the bark, just hard enough so that the bark's texture shows on the paper. Do this to other trees and compare the rubbings.
- **4.** Collect some leaves from different trees. Close your eyes and feel the leaves. How do they feel? Make leaf rubbings by _____ putting the leaf on a piece of cardboard or a clipboard, covering it with the paper, and rubbing the crayon over it.
- Once you've made several leaf and bark rubbings, play a matching game with them. Mix them up and see if you can figure out which tree each leaf and bark rubbing came from.



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What's the Animal Guessing Game

Word-based guessing games are a great way to build vocabulary and knowledge, and they're do-anywhere fun!





Directions:

(for 2 or more players)

1. One player is selected to go first. That player should think of an animal.

2 The player needs to provide word clues that describe the animal so that the other player(s) can guess the animal. But be careful – Don't slip up and say the animal's name!

3. The first player who guesses the animal correctly goes next.

Example;

- "It is large."
- "It lives in Africa."
- "It travels in herds."
- "It has a trunk."
- Answer; "It's an Elephant!"

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Wild Kratts Wet and Wild Word Find

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Search across, down or at a diagonal to find the hidden words.

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Word	s:							THE THE		AT	han	
Chris Martin Eggs Whale Squid	Liza Wa Guj Isla Ma	ter opy nd	Platypus Submarine Beaver Ecosystem Turtle		Tide Pool Bass Eel Rain							
B		S	Т	R	С	A	E	R	S	Ε	B	
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What in the World?

Reading List

Books are a great way to explore the world. In a book you can go anywhere, be any size, be any creature. Here are some books to help you and your child explore the world around you.

The Kids' Outdoor Adventure Book: 448 Great Things to Do in Nature Before You Grow Up By Stacy Torino and Ken Keffer

A fun, hands on approach to getting involved in nature, The Kids' Outdoor Adventure Book is a year-round how-to activity guidebook for getting kids outdoors and exploring nature. Ages: Preschool - Adult

My First Nature Book by Angela K. Wilkes

Introduce your child to nature through a variety of simple indoor and outdoor craft activities. Ages: First - Third Grade

Over in the Meadow by Ezra Jack Keats

This classic book by Ezra Jack Keats is filled with melodic rhyming text. Children will enjoy learning how the mother animals take care of their babies in the meadow. Ages: Babies - Kindergarten

Rain by Manya Stojic

The animals on the hot, African savannah use their senses to determine when the rain is coming. When the rain finally arrives, it makes the leaves grow full and green and the earth wet and muddy. Bright illustrations show how each animal enjoys the effects of a long, hard rain. Ages: Preschool - Second Grade

The Raft by Jim LaMarche

Nicky is reluctant to spend the summer with his grandmother by a river in the woods, thinking there will be nothing to do. However, one afternoon he discovers a raft covered with beautiful animal etchings, and soon his summer takes on a whole new focus. This exquisite picture book will captivate your child as Nicky floats down the river exploring and discovering a whole new world of forest animals and a hidden artistic talent of his own.

Ages: Kindergarten – Second Grade

What Do You Do with a Tail Like This? by Steve Jenkins and Robin Page

This clever and engaging non-fiction book is filled with amazing facts about an assortment of animals. Using beautiful collages, parts of animals' bodies are presented with intriguing questions such as, "What do you do with a nose like this?" and "What do you do with eyes like this?" The reader is then presented with information about how each animal makes use of that particular body part. A 2004 Caldecott Honor book.

Ages: Toddler – First Grade

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