

EARLY STAGE 1 SCIENCE

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES TO LEARN ABOUT THE LIVING WORLD

Learning intention: Activities are designed to engage students with the outdoors, investigating the characteristics and basic needs of living things and exploring how living things can be used to meet our needs.

Activity 1: Senses scavenger hunt

Go outside in your backyard or school playground to find living things using your senses! Can you:

- **See** 5 different living things? These might be plants, animals, birds or insects.
- **Hear** 3 different living things? These might be animals, birds or insects.
- **Smell** 2 different scented plants?
- **Touch** 2 different textured plants? They might be smooth, rough, bumpy, prickly, fuzzy. Check with an adult that the plant is safe to touch before touching it.
- **Taste** 2 different herbs, fruit or vegetables? Check with an adult that the plant is safe to eat before tasting it. If you don't have anything edible growing in your garden, ask for a piece of fruit or a vegetable from your kitchen.



Extension activity: Draw pictures of some of the things that you found on your scavenger hunt.

Activity 2: Looking after living things

Choose a section of the garden, a pot plant or a family pet that you would like to help care for throughout the week.

Living things need water

- Make a time each day to water the plants in your garden or pots.
- Ensure your pet has clean water every day.

Living things need food

- Remove any weeds from your garden to make sure the plants get as many nutrients from the soil as possible.
- Help feed your pet each day.

Extension activity: Make a short video of yourself explaining what you have been doing to care for your plants and/or pets.



Activity 3: Using living things

Humans use many living things for food or materials. Take a walk through your home, yard or school with an adult - how many things can you find that have been made from plants and animals? These may include wooden furniture, paper products, clothing, building materials, food items, bedding. How many can you find?

Extension activity: Talk with the adult you're with about which plants and animals may have been used to create the materials you've found. Draw pictures of some of the things you discovered on your search.

