

Quick Start Activities

15 Simple Explorations for Your Science Log

Here are some fun ideas to get you started!

1. Take a nature walk. Observe, ask questions, and write or draw what you notice.
2. Check out a library book with science experiments. Try one at home.
3. Gather a collection of stuff, such as toys, socks, or school supplies. Then sort them by size, color or other categories.
4. Build towers with blocks, sugar cubes, playing cards, or anything. Notice which towers are the highest and sturdiest.
5. Find science activities on a website such as www.exploratorium.edu or <http://pbskids.org/zoom/activities/sci/> and try one at home.
6. Experiment with bubbles, using different types of wands, such as pipe cleaners, clothes hangers, straws, and cookie cutters.
7. Plant seeds in a plastic soda bottles and observe how they grow in different locations.
8. Observe the moon over a 28 day period. Draw a picture each night you see it.
9. Explore chemical reactions using a library book such as *Crazy Concoctions* by Jordan Brown.
10. Test buoyancy. Fill a tub with water and predict whether or not an object will float. Use toys, rocks, balls, pine cones, and anything else you can think of.
11. Observe bugs in your house or outside. Check out a book like *Bug Science* by Karen Young for ideas.
12. Make a paper airplane. Adjust the wings using folds, cuts, or paper clips. Observe how it flies differently each time.
13. Use sand and water to build houses, towers, or castles. Try adding more water or more sand to see what mixture makes the best building material.
14. Search for “Science Experiments for children” on YouTube. Pick one you like and try it at home.
15. Look for insects and bugs in hidden places. Peek under rocks, on tree bark, in the grass. Count how many different kinds of creatures you spot.

Ask a librarian for more suggestions of books, websites, and other resources.