



Nature Play: Take a Color Walk

Local Color on a Nature Walk

Color is a fundamental part of both nature and art. Looking for specific colors on a walk adds a scavenger hunt component to being outside. It helps everyone stay engaged and encourages people of all ages to slowdown and really observe the world around them. Finding colors can also be starting point for literary, artistic, mathematics, and/or scientific explorations.

Motivating Questions: When you go outside, what colors do you see? Is one color more common than the others? How many different shades of each color are there? Where are some surprising places to see colors? What colors did you see that surprised you?

NOTE for Grownups: it is fun to do these activities with your children, but remember when they (not you) lead the activity they learn problem-solving skills and gain confidence.

Materials: Paint chips or homemade color samples. Optional: hole-punch, binder ring, string or ribbon, clipboard, pen/pencil,

Go on a Color Walk:

- Collect paint chips in a variety of colors (about 10 is good). For young children learning their colors, single color cards are good. For older children working on variations in tone and hue, cards with multiple shades of a color are good. Alternatively, use crayons, markers, or other craft materials to make color cards.
- Paint chips can be hole punched and bound on a ring to keep them all together or handled individually. It can be helpful to punch another hole in the card and use this hole to help with the color matching.
- Give everyone paint chips (they can take a whole set or select a few to find).
- As you walk, try to match the colors on the paint chips to the things you find.
 - Are all shades of green the same? Do other colors have shades? How many can you find?
- Results can be documented on a clipboard data sheet and/or with photographs, or whatever method you wish.

If you want to explore further,

<https://www.education.com/activity/article/paint-chip-picture-walk/>
<http://www.cbc.ca/parents/play/view/colour-match-nature-walk-with-paint-chips>
<https://innerchildfun.com/2011/05/outdoor-color-match.html>
<https://entirelysmitten.typepad.com/entirelysmitten/2011/07/color-walk-boredom-buster.html>

For more color walk ideas:

<http://insideoutsidemichiana.blogspot.com/2013/11/color-exploration-with-paint-swatches.html>
<http://homanathome.com/2018/04/color-match-tic-tac-toe/>
<https://fakinit.typepad.com/fakin-it/2011/05/wild-flower-art.html>
<https://fakinit.typepad.com/fakin-it/2011/05/wild-flower-art.html>



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Color Walk Examples From the Web

