NATURE OBSERVATION

I love taking nature walks. I could walk and sit and observe all day. But sometimes, it’s fun to know what to look for. That’s why I thought some themes for your walks might come in handy. Sometimes, looking for tracks in a creek bed or searching for wildflowers or birds nests can help us to notice and appreciate various parts of nature.

Another way to go on a nature walk is by using journals. By observing and then sketching or writing what you observed, you are becoming scientists and developing an appreciation for the natural world.

BRAINSTORM

Start thinking more about the plants, animals, weather, and seasons:
- Make a list of all the plants you can think of ~
- Make another list of all the animals you can think of ~
- Make a list about all the different kinds of weather you can think of ~
- Now, make a list of everything you know, everything you want to know, and include whatever information you want to have about the seasons.

KEEP YOUR LISTS Please! You can make your own Nature journal or, if you decide to print out a copy of the Nature Walk Observation Notebook, you could add your lists to it! This Nature Walk Observation Notebook is a 6 page nature printable for you. Each page is dedicated to one part of nature for you to observe and record. Hopefully, it will spark some ideas about nature.

http://2dh8s42c4g0b4fkujgfp4w7a-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/Nature-Walk-Observation-Notebook1.pdf
ASSIGNMENT
The first part of your assignment this week is to:
1. Be inspired by the nature around you. Take a nature walk (even if it’s just out in the backyard), or have a picnic lunch outside. If it’s rainy outside or not fun to go outdoors, try gazing out the window and let the outdoors inspire you!
2. While you’re outside (and this is the hard part) Find a single thing.

OK, so the second part of your assignment is to write a haiku that matches each part of the Nature Walk Observation Notebook. That means:

★ One haiku about plants
★ One haiku about animals
★ One haiku about what you find under a log
★ One haiku about the weather
★ One haiku about sounds

When you write them, make an illustration that goes with each one and add it to your nature journal or your Nature Walk Observation Notebook!

How do I write a haiku, you ask?

INTRODUCTION:
Japanese Haiku Poems are about Nature.

A haiku poem is a traditional Japanese three-line poem that doesn’t rhyme. The pattern is to write the first and last lines with five syllables each, and the middle line with seven syllables like this:

- Line 1: 5 syllables
- Line 2: 7 syllables
- Line 3: 5 syllables
Traditional Japanese haiku always contains an element of nature.

The purpose of haiku is to share a brief moment.

3. Break down your ideas like this:
   
   (first example)
   instead of a lawn of grass, think of a blade of grass;
   
   (second example)
   or instead of a colony of ants, think of one ant doing one thing.
   
   (third example)
   Or instead of the car,
   think of the window next to where you sit in the car
   ...and imagine one dribble of rain
   sliding
   down
   into another dribble
   until it ends up in a puddle at the bottom of the window
   with all the other collected dribs
   and then
   it disappears.
   
   (fourth example)
   Or instead of a rainstorm,
   think about the rain falling on the tree,
   and instead of the rain falling on the tree,
   think about just one drop that hits a leaf.

4. Then freeze time and write about that! The moment the raindrop hits a leaf, or whatever moment you froze time for!

5. Read the haiku below these directions. I wrote one!

6. “Think of a tiny moment, frozen in time. Then zoom in and get a close up look at what’s going on in that very still, quiet second.”

7. Remember, a Haiku has a 5-7-5 syllable structure
8. Illustrate your Haiku!

tiny green insect  5
grasshopper on a grass blade  7
having a dew drink  5

~ By Carol 4/22/20

REMEMBER: Haiku is about a **Single Moment in Time**.