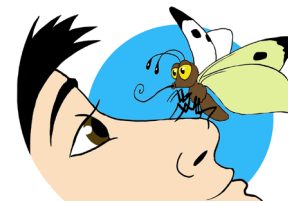




Children apply the story principles through direct observation

Garden Friends 3



Keywords nature observation • creative display

- 1 The aim of this exercise is to put children directly into contact with nature for them to see how animals or plants and animals work together. Any relationship will work, as long as it is between different animals or different plants or between plants and animals.
- 2 Use the school soil patch, garden or planters. If you have none of these, organise an outing and gather all the different nature ideas for your year group, and make it a Dinja Wahda morning.
- 3 Get the children to look at nature around them and find relationships. These could be anything you are looking at, such as:
 - An ant walking up a tree – the ant needs what the tree provides.
 - An ant carrying a seed – the plant needs the ant to carry its seeds underground.
 - Ants following each other in a trail – ant sisters help each other find and carry food.
 - A bird singing or chirping – birds are speaking to each other, sending messages about food or danger.
 - A butterfly, bee or other insect on a flower – the insect sucks nectar, the flower gets pollinated.
- A beetle or woodlouse among dry leaves – the beetle eats leaves and helps the soil become richer.
- A spider's web – the spider catches food, and keeps insect numbers in control so that there is enough food for all.
- A bird flies into a tree and pecks among leaves – the bird finds insect food on the leaves and 'cleans' off parasites.
- Aphids sucking sap from leaves – aphids get food from plants and are an important link in many food chains.
- 4 Think of how you want your children to represent at least one link that they saw. Provide them with the materials they need for this. You may wish to take photos and do the recording when back in class. Ask the child who finds the link to tell you what to photograph.
- 5 Make a display of your nature links in any way appropriate to your class and give it a title together.

When looking for nature's links, try not to damage nature. Stick to footpaths and keep voices low.

Use the Dinja Wahda Notice Board and tell the school about what you're doing.

Send photos of

- ☐ the children looking for nature links
- ☐ the nature links display

