



Pour-A-Pond/Sortin' Soil



Adults: You are the **navigators** of today's exploration, and you will be asking questions of your student to observe, predict, and explain their thinking.

Kids: You will be the **investigators**. Your job is to observe, make predictions, and explain your thinking!

Challenge: Explore the creatures and features you find in our mini-ponds or plots!

Navigator (Adult) ask your
Investigator (Kid):

- What kinds of things do you think we could see in water from a pond (lake, creek, river...) or soil from a field (wooded area, riverbank...)?
- How do we know if something is alive? What do living things do that we can see? What do they do that we can't see?

What's the SCIENCE?

- All living things need: **water, air, food, and resources** (nutrients, sunlight, shelter).
- Living things **survive** in a variety of **habitats**. There are many different kinds of living things in an area, and they exist on land and in water.

Mini-Pond/Plot Exploration: Look at the creatures and features in the mini-ponds or plots. Draw what you observe in the water or soil. Add lines to show the motion(s) you observe.

Is it living or non-living? After your drawing is finished, look at the objects you drew. Label **living things** with **L** and **non-living things** with **N**. If you are not sure, label the object with a **?** then discuss with your family.

Talking Tip

Encourage your **Investigator** to explain their thinking.

After they answer, try following up with probes like...

"Why do you think that?"

- or -

"Tell me more about that."

Navigator ask your **Investigator:**

- What kinds of motion do you observe in the water? What ways are things moving (straight, zig zag, circle, or spiral)?
- How do things look different when you use the magnifying lens?
- Some living things we see in the water or soil may be adults and some may be babies. Did you see any babies? Why do you think that?



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