

SCIENCE FOR ONE

box

Activities for doing practical science while respecting social distancing

- * Each activity sheet is based around **one easy to obtain resource**
- * Children **work independently** but should be encouraged to talk in pairs or groups
- * Any additional resources needed are minimal and easy to provide for each child
- * Activities are **linked to topics** and suggestions are given for **three age ranges**
- * The activities **can be done outside**

Science with a cardboard box

Shoe, pizza, paper and delivery boxes are all junk resources that are simple to collect and are free. Any sized box can be used, and the children can be encouraged to bring in their own box from home.



AGE 5-7 NATURE COLLECTION

Challenge children to explore outside and assemble a collection of natural objects in their boxes: sticks of different lengths and sizes; leaves of different colours and shapes; stones with different surfaces.

What to do with the collection:

- Identify ways in which the natural resources are similar and different
- Group and classify them according to observable features
- Identify the leaves with this Nature Detectives' [leaf identification tool](#)
- Discuss which objects are alive, were once alive or have never been alive, and encourage the children to give reasons for their ideas
- Create a model animal inside their box from some or all of their natural resources. Stories such as *Leaf Man* by Lois Ehlert or *Fletcher and the Falling Leaves* by Julia Rawlinson could provide inspiration for this

HEALTH AND SAFETY NOTE: the children should wash their hands before and after collecting the objects, and they should be briefed about what is safe to collect.

Resources per child

- Cardboard box
- Leaf identification tool

Science explored

- Living things
- Plants
- Identifying and classifying

Interesting links

- [Nature Detectives Leaf Dial](#)
- [Science Fun at Home - Scavenger](#)

Leaf identification tool

Woodland Trust
**Nature
detectives**



Be a super spotter!
How many trees can you identify?



Found any other leaves? Do you know which trees they're from?

Feel free to copy and share this for personal and educational use -
and don't forget there are loads more brilliant activities to download as well!

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