



Today's Featured Activity: I Notice, I Wonder

This activity is a fun way to take a closer look at things you see around you every day! You might want to bring some paper or your nature journal with you to jot down the questions that come from this activity so you can do a little research back at home on a rainy day.

As you explore your backyard, neighborhood, or public area, stop and look for a natural item, like a leaf, rock, branch, flower or acorn. Ask the following questions of each item you pick up or stop to look at (please don't pick up animals), this activity will help you to become a better observer and maybe notice things others don't see.

I notice: use your senses (except taste!) to make observations and describe the item. For instance, if I pick up an acorn, I might say "it is brown, the bottom is smooth with a pointy end, the top is bumpy, and comes off into two pieces. It smells like wet wood."

I wonder: think about the questions that came up while taking a closer look at your item. "I wonder why the acorn has a pointy tip? I wonder if some animals like the acorns from one tree better than another? I wonder if the acorns from different oak trees look different?"

It reminds me of: make connections to things or experiences you already know. "This acorn reminds me of a person with a hat on." As you explore, look for patterns in the things you are finding. Do all the leaves you're picking up have veins? Do the flowers have the same number of petals? Do all the rocks on the wall have moss on them? If you're having trouble coming up with observations about an item, pretend you've never seen it before and try to describe it as much as you can.

Did you do this activity? Post a photo on Instagram and tag @clctrust or use #clctrust.

Have suggestions for activities you'd like to see? [Send us an email!](#)

Columbia Land Conservancy | clctrust.org

