

1. Worm's eye view

You will need...

- a small (or medium-sized) mirror



Imagine that you are a beetle or a worm living on the ground.

Get down low on the ground. Use your mirror to look underneath logs, branches, chairs, in holes, in trees and the underneath of leaves.

- What can you see?
- How are the animals suited to that environment?

Now stand up and hold the mirror so it's reflecting the sky and look down into it.

Start walking around. What do you notice? You might need someone to guide you around so you don't trip over.

What else can you explore with the mirror?

- What if you were a **spider**. Where would you live? What would you eat?
- How about a **bird of prey** circling above the trees. What would the world look like to them?

Try attaching it to a stick or the end of a coat hanger with some tape and exploring more areas.



2. Mini natural maps

You will need...

- string
- a compass (or phone app)
- 2 action figures OR animal toys



After you've done some exploring of your area your challenge is to create a map of it using natural materials.

Imagine yourself to be the size of your toy or just a few centimetres tall. What might this place look like then?

You could use the string to make the outline of your map or use some sticks, leaves or pebbles to make the edge.

Things to think about when making your map or park:

- The scale of your map. How big and how far apart are the places in real life? You could measure by pacing out the distance. How can you make objects the same distance apart on your map?
- How can you represent all the different parts of your place. Is it flat or hilly, are there trees and bushes, buildings, paths, ponds etc?
- Which direction are you facing? How can you add this information to your map?
- When you've finished why not give someone a tour?

They could use the map to find places in real life. Was that easy or difficult? You could make a video filming at the height of your toy, imagining what it might be like to explore there.



3. Hapa Zome

You will need...

- some light-coloured old fabric or thick paper
- a bit of old cardboard
- something to bash with (like a thick stick)
- a sturdy flat surface to bash onto (like a paving slab)

Hapa Zome is a Japanese term meaning “leaf dye” and is a great way to make art using colours from nature. The aim is to make art using the colours from nature.

Have a walk around and collect some flowers and leaves – grass, dandelions etc all work well. Fresh juicy leaves and flowers work best, please don't pick mum and dad's nice roses!

- Lay the cardboard flat on your bashing surface to protect it.
- Lay the fabric or thick paper on the cardboard, arrange your flowers and plants on it and fold it over like a sandwich.
- Use your bashing stick or hammer to pound the flowers and plants (mind your fingers!).

Try doing it a little at first and seeing if it has worked. When you're happy with it you can pick off the remaining plants. You could sew or stick your fabric to a stick to make a flag or cut it into triangles to make bunting.

Experiment and see which colours work best and do some research to find out why flowers are different colours and how natural pigments are formed.

