

ACTIVITIES FOR WILLIAMSTOWN BOTANIC GARDENS

Task: Nature in Focus

Description: Create a frame to help examine the gardens in detail. Draw or write about what they can see.

Level: Grades 2, 3, 4

Outcomes: Understanding the lives of plants and animals found within frame

Materials:

- 1 x 1 metre frames (made with sticks or available from resources)
- Magnifying glass for each child
- Paper & Pen for recording
- Natural History Reference books (optional)

Procedure:

1. Give each group (2-3 children) a frame and one magnifying glass to each child.
2. Provide guidelines on where the frames can be placed. (Do not disturb garden beds)
3. Allow time for looking and exploring
4. Ask each child/group to report what they found
5. Draw out any interesting connections? Ant homes, leaf shelters, leaf shapes

Additional: The activity could be extended:

- Draw the world according to an ant.
- Write a story about a beetle making his way through your frame.
- Look up an insect/bug in a reference/computer at school and find out its scientific name and what it likes to eat.