

Kids Explore!

Take an Unnatural Hike

1) Next time you go for a hike, or a neighborhood walk, put a handful of small “unnatural” objects in your pocket — things like a rubber band, a penny, a ribbon, a twisty tie, a milk jug cap, a colored pencil, a marble...you get the idea!



2) As you walk along, have people take turns being the *hider*, going ahead of the group and carefully concealing your unnatural objects along the trail or roadside. Hiders should “camouflage” items so they aren’t obvious, but not hide them completely out of sight. (Hint: Try winding a ribbon around something like a vine, hiding a green marble next to a leaf, making a pencil look like a twig, etc.)



3) Once the objects are hidden, have your *seekers* walk along and try to find them. If they pass by something, do hot and cold to help them find it. You can hike quite a distance if you do this over and over again — and it’s lots of fun!

Things to Think About & Follow Up Activities

- ◆ Which objects are most difficult to find? Does the place you hide them matter? Does their color or shape make a difference?
- ◆ Look for natural neighbors, such as insects and birds, that use **camouflage** to hide from **predators** that might like to eat them!

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