



# Drawing from Nature

## Overview

Students will notice details, differences and similarities of natural objects by drawing and discussing them.

## Illinois State Early Learning Goals

**Fine Arts State Goal 25:** Know the language of the arts.

**Fine Arts State Goal 26:** Through creating and performing, understand how works of art are produced.

**Science State Goal 12:** Understand the fundamental concepts, principles and interconnections of the life, physical and earth/space sciences.

**Language Arts Goal 4:** Listen and speak effectively in a variety of situations.

## Vocabulary

- Observation
- Sketch
- Magnification

## Materials

Magnifying glasses

Tabletop easels & plexiglass

Wet erase markers

Damp sponges

Plants

Paper

Colored pencils- browns, blacks and greens

Regular pencils

Erasers, pencil sharpener

Seeds, pinecones, sticks, natural materials to draw

## Procedure

1. Set up a table or stations with natural materials including potted plants, pinecones, seeds, dried flowers, etc. You may ask students to bring in a natural item from home.
2. Set up tabletop easels with plexiglass on them and place a plant behind the glass. Have children draw what they see directly on the plexiglass with a wet-erase marker. They can use damp sponges to “erase.”
3. Set up another station with magnifying glasses, colored pencils, paper and more natural items. Students can observe the small items through the magnifying glass and draw what they see.
4. As students work, have them describe what details they are seeing and capturing in their drawings. *Were they surprised by anything they saw? Did the object look different when viewed through the magnifying glass? What other items would they like to investigate? How did they use the art materials to capture the details they saw?*

## Extension

### **Natural Vocabulary**

Divide children into groups and give each group a natural item to investigate. Ask the students to come up with as many words as they can to describe the item they have. *Is it smooth, brown, crinkly, green, curly, cool, etc?* Discuss the many ways you can observe and describe an object, including its color, texture, temperature, etc.