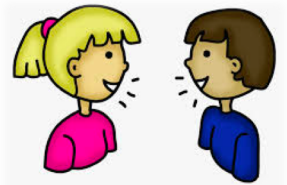
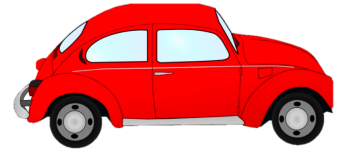


# LET'S EXPLORE!!!

## What can you hear in your neighborhood?



1. Find a space to stand outside to listen or from inside with open windows with your child
2. Make yourself comfortable and listen for 1 - 2 minutes.
3. Ask your child what they hear. Take turns talking about what you hear
4. Ask your child how the sounds made them feel
5. Use interesting words to stretch your child's ideas. You can say things like - "What did that car engine sound like? Was it a roar, or maybe it sputtered?" "When you smelled the grass, how did it make you feel?"



## Insect Observations



### Materials needed:

- Journaling materials (paper, notebook, anything to write on)
- Markers/Crayons
- Tupperware/Jars



1. Ask your child "Where could we find some bugs?" "Why do you think it's there?"
2. Go check that spot. Continue this process until you find a bug
3. If it's fast and safe, you may want to temporarily catch the bug. Use tupperware/jars.
4. Use open ended questions to encourage observations - "what do you notice about its body?", "how does it move?", "what do you like about this bug?"
5. Expand on statements using vocabulary words - (i.e. "you're noticing that it has long antennae")
6. Give your child some time to record their observations through drawing or writing
7. Now it's your turn to write. Have your child tell you about their observations while you write what they say. Ask them about the pictures they drew and add labels



## Making it work for your child...



- Encourage your child to talk and write in the language spoken at home
- If you can't go outside, bring nature indoors! Look out of the window to observe the clouds, look at photos on your phone/device, or observe things that happen around the house
- Taking a video of the chosen area with sights/sounds as an alternative to describing their senses or feelings

## Making it work for your family!



- For **older children**, encourage them to create and label accurate drawings and make measurements of the insect
- For **younger children**, use simple words or describe what you're noticing!

Observation activities are great because it helps kids work on their listening to describe their senses, learn new adjectives, practice writing and journaling. Most importantly, it allows kids explore their surroundings and environment around them!