



Plant Detective Notes

Search, observe, and record discoveries outdoors.

Helps Your Child Grow



Scientific Inquiry

A detective game that combines observing, recording, and explaining details gives your child a playful introduction to scientific exploration.



Fine Motor

Tracing outlines and drawing observed patterns repeatedly builds steadier, more flexible hand control.

Steps

- Before the investigation, draw one simple target pattern on paper - for example, three parallel lines or several holes in different sizes.
- Invite your child to become a plant detective. Bring a magnifying glass, notebook, pencil, and tape to a park and search for plants with the same pattern.
- Walk around together. When your child spots a possible match, examine it closely with the magnifying glass.
- Use a question to guide closer observation: “Does this leaf have any little holes?”
- Once you find a match, tape the fallen plant piece into the notebook. Draw a large outline of the leaf, then invite your child to add the patterns they observed.
- Compare your records: Who included more details?
- At home, ask your child to point to the notebook and introduce the “plant detective notes” to the family.

Tips

- It is fine if the drawing does not look exact or polished. The goal is to notice and record more of the plant’s details.

Observations

- Draws insect holes or vein patterns seen on a plant
- Holds a pencil and makes simple marks to record a finding