

**LESSON: Exploring the Rainbow and Nature****Grade Level: K****OBJECTIVES:**

Students Will:

- Learn what causes a rainbow to appear
- Learn the colors of the rainbow in the order they appear
- Explore the outdoors for information on the role color plays in nature

**MATERIALS:**

Prism, flashlight, pencil bags, “color cards” for each group with an example of the colors for which they are searching, including a few nature examples

**PRESENTATION:**

Explain how a rainbow occurs (as light passes through raindrops, the light is bent and separates into the colors of the rainbow). ROYGBIV is how you remember the colors: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet. Turn off lights and shine a flashlight through a glass prism to stimulate sun and raindrops and create a rainbow. These rainbow colors appear in nature in places other than the rainbow. They are joined by the colors black, white, gray, and brown to make our world colorful.

**DIRECTIONS:**

1. Explain that the class is going on a color hunt outdoors. Students will be looking for items from nature that the colors of the rainbow, plus black, white, gray, and brown. Show examples, such as a leaf, stone, twig, flower petal, etc.
2. Divide students into small groups or partners, having them collect items and place in a bag. If it is something they can't bring back to class, they can write or draw it on their color card.
3. Allow time to share what they've found. Have students discuss: What color occurs most often in nature? How does the color of an animal affect its ability to hide?
4. If time allows, groups can exchange their bags and play a sensory guessing game by closing their eyes, pulling an item from the bag and guessing what it is by touch only.

**Time: 45-60 min.**

**Processing through the Six Pillars:**

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**WHAT:**

- What is the most “popular” color in nature?
- Are the other “less popular” colors in nature? Are these colors equally important?
- Was there a color you could not find?

**SO WHAT**

- Did you help others in your group find the more difficult colors in nature?
- Did you thank others in your group who helped find a difficult color?

**NOW WHAT**

- Are the “less popular” colors in nature equally important to the “more popular” colors?