



B.C. First Nations Head Start Curriculum: Teaching Science

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You don't need elaborate equipment to observe nature: water, shadows, sky, earth. You can do many things with only a magnifying glass, measuring cup, a ruler. A table in a science corner will allow children to look at information picture books, or natural materials, such as an ear of Indian corn, a beaver pelt, etc. from your supplies.

Encourage each child to observe keenly.

"What do you see?"

"What is it like?"

Invite each child to think, by asking:

"What do you think...?"

"What might happen if...?"

"How can we find out?"

Give children a variety of experiences, using:

Living things (plants, animals)

Earth and its elements (rocks, soil, sand, metals, water, air)

Matter and energy (heat, wind, sound, motors, magnetism, cooking)

Regions beyond the earth (sun, moon, stars, planets)

Develop in children a respect for all living things.

Reprinted from *Show Us the Way: Daycare Curriculum Manual*, Council for Yukon Indians.

The manual is available for loan from Westcoast Child Care Resource Centre (see p. 7) and from BC Aboriginal Child Care Society. Web site: www.acc-society.bc.ca