



nitty ★ gritty
★ super city ★

Microscopes

Description of photo

This girl is looking through a microscope. The microscope magnifies or makes things appear bigger.

Using microscopes helps children develop their observation skills.

More information

The specimens are magnified one and a half times with this microscope.

The specimens in this activity include a: bird feather, flower, petal, spider web, seed, leaf, fly wing, grass, flower stamen.

Scientists use microscopes to take a closer look at very small things.

Learning outcomes

In this activity, children will:

- use their senses to explore the world around them
- describe their activities and observations using both general and science-specific language
- sort objects according to basic criteria.

Pre-visit questions

1. What is the girl doing?
2. What do you think the microscope does?
3. Have you used a microscope before?

Post-visit questions

1. What did you see when you used the microscope?
2. Why is a microscope useful?

During your visit

- Have children guess what they are seeing.
- Ask if any of the specimens they can see through the microscope are alive?
- Ask which specimens are plants or a part of plants.