

Tools Extend our Senses!



Lesson Overview

In this activity, student use hand-lenses to find matching cards.

Suggested Grade Levels: K~2

Standards for Lesson

Content Standard A: Science as Inquiry

K-4: Ask questions about objects, organisms, and events in the environment.

Time Needed

This lesson takes several class periods. Sample schedule:

Day One: Complete the **Engage** and **Explore** portion of the lesson
Day Two: Complete the **Explain** portion of lesson
Day Three: Complete the **Elaborate** and **Evaluate** portion of the lesson

Materials for Lesson

- Magnifying lens

Content Background

Tools are used by scientists to help make observations more effectively.

Engage

Say to the students: explorers and scientists use tools to explore the world. Today they are going to learn how to use a really useful tool-a magnifying lens. Show students what a magnifying lens looks like. Model for students how to use it.

After modeling, give each student a penny and a lens. Ask students to use the magnifying lens to look closely at the pictures on both sides of a penny. Tell students that coins have a date on it. Can they find the date using their lens?

Next, have the students do the same thing with a dime.

Have students share orally how the lens helped them to see the coins.

Explore

Print out the 3 sets of "magnifying picture cards" (provided) on different shades of cardstock (white, gray, or beige). In the center, students should work to match up the large pictures with the small pictures using the magnifying lens. They can glue them down on a sheet of paper.

Explain

Explain that scientists use tools to extend their senses. Sometimes we can't see with our eyes because things are so small. We saw that in our last activity.

Elaborate

Have students use the hand lens to explore other objects in a center. Students should draw what they see and write about their drawings.

Evaluate

Have children write a sentence describing how the hand lens helps them.



