THINGS THAT FLY NATURE WALK

OVERVIEW
In this outdoor activity, students will use a tool to make observations and identify things outside that fly and move through the air.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES
- Students will use observation skills to identify flying objects they see in the world around them.
- Students will describe how objects fly.
- Students will identify differences in the way objects fly or move through the air.

VOCABULARY
- OBSERVATION – to look very closely at something and notice things about it
- DESCRIBE – to represent or give an account of a thing using words
- IDENTIFY – to know or name what something is

MATERIALS
- An outside space with a pre-determined walking route, spot to sit, or a window
- Large piece of chart paper
- Things That Fly Observation Card (included)
- Crayons, markers, stickers, or another way of marking things on Observation Card
- Blank paper for drawing

SET-UP
→ Establish your field of observation. This could be a short walking route outside, an outdoor space where the group can sit together, or simply a window where students can spend time looking outside.
→ Print enough copies of the Things That Fly Observation Card to complete the activity. Depending on your group, the observation card could be filled out collectively or each student could have their own.

LESSON PLAN
1) Open the activity with a conversation about being scientists and using observation skills. As a group, make a list of things scientists do when they observe, for example: looking closely, being patient, noticing when things are the same or different, etc. on large piece of chart paper.

Before the Walk
1) Practice some observation inside the classroom.

Example Questions
- What do we see around us?
- Are there some things that match each other?
- What kinds of objects/things are in our space?
- What do we hear around us?
2) Talk about what the group will be doing outside.

   Example Questions
   
   - During the walk, what are we going to be looking for? *(things that fly)*
   - What does it look like when something is flying? *(moving in the air off the ground)*

3) Introduce the observation card and discuss how and why this card will be helpful on the walk.

4) Review your group’s safety guidelines.

**During the Walk**

1) Follow the short route you planned in advance or gather students in the area you plan to use for observation.

2) While the group is outside, take time to be still and observe like you did in the classroom. Help students keep track of things they could be looking for and seeing. Note: Spend as much time waiting as is reasonable for your group. If you do not see any flying things, that’s OK.

   Example Questions
   
   - Do we see anything that’s on our card?
   - Are there other things we see that are not on the card?
   - What are those things? Draw those objects in the blank squares.

3) As you and the group identify things, ask open-ended questions and description questions to help students describe what they are seeing.

   Example Questions
   
   - How does the object look while it’s in the air?
   - What are some shapes you see?
   - What are some colors you see?
   - What would it feel like to move like the object?

**After the Walk**

1) Wrap up the experience by talking about what they saw.

   Example Questions
   
   - How many things did we see?
   - Did we see more of one kind of thing than others?
   - How did all of the flying things look when they moved in the air?
   - Did they look the same or different from each other? In what ways?

2) Ask students to draw something they saw, felt, or did during the walk. Hang up in classroom and tell a story about your group’s walk.
FURTHER EXTENSION

In the Museum
During your visit to The Museum of Flight visit the Tower Exhibit to explore content about natural flight and watch airplanes take off and land at Boeing Field.
Do an observation walk inside the galleries.

In the Classroom
Students could share this exercise with their grown-ups. Distribute blank copies of the Observation Card – out of the classroom, students could practice observing what they see outside their cars, outside their window, in the store, etc.

Other Museum Programs
Fossett Engineers (on-site field trip program)
Flying Gizmo Show (off-site outreach program)
Aerospace Camp Experience (individual student program)

STANDARDS
Common Core State Standards (WA)

SUGGESTED READING/ ADDITIONAL RESOURCES
• The Looking Book by P.K. Hallinan
# Things that Fly Observation Card

Use a marker to circle or color the flying things you see outside. Use the empty squares to draw other things you see — that fly or things that do not!

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<th>Jet</th>
<th>Leaf</th>
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<th>Bee</th>
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<table>
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<th>Sea Gull</th>
<th>Float Plane</th>
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