Neighborhood Nature Search & Find NY

OVERVIEW
Title: Search & Find NY
Grade Levels: PK - 5th
Connections to the Big Ideas of Sustainability: Place/Community

LESSON SUMMARY
Students will use the skills of observation to see what makes up their place. This activity encourages little scientists to use their five senses, and also gets them moving and exercising, all the while building connection to their place which cultivates awareness and stewardship.

CHILDREN’S LITERATURE BOOK CONNECTION
• I took a Walk by Henry Cole
• A Walk in the Forest by Maria Dek
• Wherever you Go by Pat Zietlow Miller
• All the World by Liz Garton Scanlon

MATERIALS NEEDED
• Nature Search & Find paper
• Pencil
• Optional: clipboard

THE LESSON
Essential Questions (choose based on age/interest): What makes my “place” unique and different?

Activity Directions:
1. Gather supplies
2. Have little scientist attach their Nature Search & Find to the clipboard. If you do not have a clipboard, you can cut a piece of cardboard to use.
3. Safely walk around your neighborhood or along the bayou to search for items on the list.

During the activity: Have your little scientists observe using their five senses to find the items listed on the Nature Search & Find.

Post Activity: (adapt to age level; these questions spur inquiry and can lead to other questions while motivating creativity and critical-thinking).

Reflection:
• What do I know now?
• What item was most commonly seen during my nature walk? Why?
• How has my thinking changed about where I live?
NAME ____________________________  DATE ________