

A PLACE-BASED CURRICULUM SPECIMEN

Wetland edge

One place. Enough to return to.

A small prompt for ages 2-5: observe a place after rain, carry one question home, and come back later with changed eyes.

AGE 2-5 years TIME 15-20 minutes SETTING path edge, yard, or window

Bring: one fallen leaf, a pencil or crayon, and a page that can get a little muddy. Stay on the path and keep hands out of moving water.



01 Notice Water leaves a dark line where the path meets the reeds. A leaf catches there, then turns when the current loosens it.	02 Wonder Ask: <i>What stays when the water moves on?</i> Accept a gesture, a guess, or “I don’t know yet.”
03 Make Place one fallen leaf beside the waterline. Draw its shape without naming it. Add one mark for where the water was.	04 Return Come back after the ground dries. What changed? What did not? Add a second line or tell the story again.

ADULT NEARBY Follow attention without turning the moment into a quiz. The child sets the pace; the adult keeps the boundary.	WHY IT BELONGS IN THE GAZETTEER One bounded place can become a card, fieldbook spread, or calm digital prompt without losing its invitation to return.	HONEST PROTOTYPE NOTE This is a curriculum-design specimen, not a developmental assessment, species identifier, or claim about what every child should do.
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