

FIND YOUR NATURAL MAKER SPACE

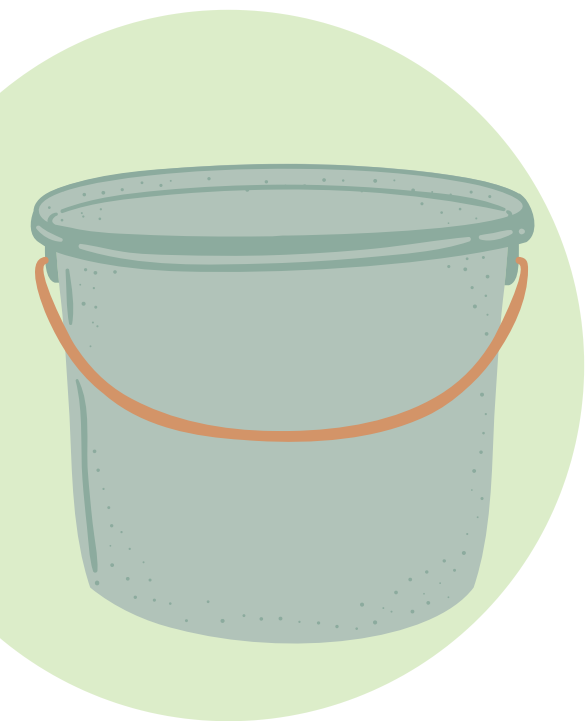


STEP 1: MAKE A PLAN

Take a walk around the neighborhood or use Google Maps to make a map of the spaces that are within walking distance of your house or school. Identify safe, accessible spaces that you could possibly use with permission (woods, parks, fields, beach, etc.). Each space has something unique to share.

STEP 2: EXPLORE

Explore each of the places to identify and note all the advantages, disadvantages and sources of danger. If hazards are identified and beyond your control, you can eliminate this option. If not, make a plan of the natural elements found there, the different possibilities of creation and learning.



STEP 3: ARRANGE

When you have identified interesting and safe sites, start thinking about what you would need to spend the day there with students. It could simply be a matter of moving natural elements already there or transporting equipment on a regular basis. No need to set up permanent structures, a bucket can be used as a bench, table, whiteboard, as well as to transport equipment, etc.

Be creative and above all remember that this space is first of all the home of diverse living species.

STEP 4: ENJOY

Plan your first visit to the site. You have explored it and you surely already have great activities to offer to your students/children ...

It's great. Keep in mind, however, that they will discover the site with their own eyes. Don't be disappointed if your plans don't work. The most beautiful discoveries are rarely planned. Take advantage of every moment of learning offered by your natural space. Use an electronic portfolio or exploration journal to record your students' learning..

