

## Create your own outdoor classroom

What if you could create your own portable classroom? Make an outdoor brilliant bucket to carry all your tools and bring back samples of your exploration.

### Setup

Where can we find free buckets? Contact restaurants, markets, cafeterias in your area. They receive food products in surprisingly durable buckets and then throw them away.

### Content

#### Call to make

What if you could bring your classroom with you at any site you choose to explore? What if one versatile item is enough to explore and learn a day in nature?

#### Empathize

How can we learn from nature without damaging it?

What do I have to think about before exploring nature? How could my exploration lead to valorization and protection of the land? Who could help me with my outdoor projects? Who will be carrying the bucket?

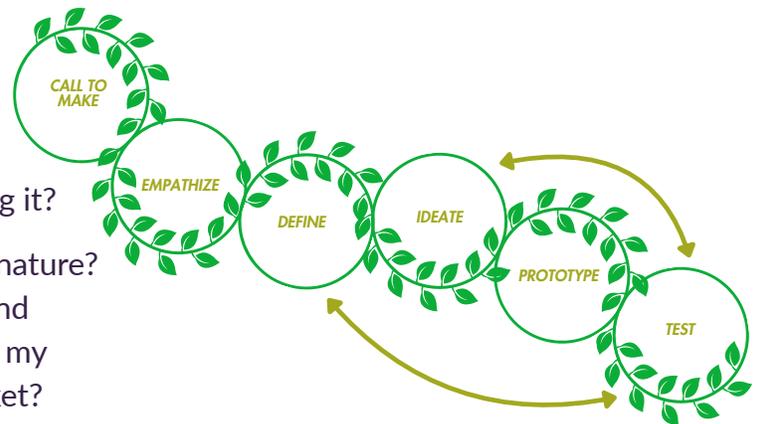


### Skills

- Organization
- Observation
- Communication
- Investigation
- Critical Thinking & Problem Solving

### Materials

- Bucket
- Tools various



#### Define

What are the specific characteristics of the nature area you are exploring (water, field, forest)? What is your goal for the day? What tools will you need? What would you need to add to your bucket regarding the weather forecast for the day?



## Ideate

You don't want to carry too much stuff for a long walk. How will you prioritize the essential tools to bring? How will you take a break during your walk? Sometimes tools need to be "hacked" in order to serve a purpose. Do you have to hack a tool and make it fit an unintended purpose?

## Prototype

What criteria were used or how did you decide on what tools chosen for your bucket and suggest a plan for how they will be used? Bring your outdoor brilliant bucket for a short excursion. Did you miss something? What could you add to your bucket to make it even more practical? How could you have made it better?

## Test

Invite your friends or family to make their own outdoor brilliant bucket. What did they include that is different from yours? How could you improve the content of your bucket? What improvements could be made to your exploration? Why?

## Teachable Moments

### Math

Identify and describe any geometric shapes that you observed in the materials you have collected. Identify and describe any patterns the items you collected (patterns in nature are very common) Identify and describe any symmetry in the natural elements you found (i.e. line or rotational symmetry). Record the overall time during your nature walk and explorations. Determine the distance traveled, and calculate your average speed on your walk.



### Science

Classify the natural items in your bucket. Choose your own classification system or perhaps classify into living vs. non-living. What are some characteristics of living and nonliving things? What new questions occurred as a result of collecting your materials? Look up the answer. What safety factors should you consider when selecting tools for your bucket and when collecting materials?





### Visual Arts

Create a photo experience for your nature walk and exploration - consider different perspectives and/or angle when taking photos Create a photo scavenger hunt - make a list of items you would like to take a photo of and try to find as many as possible on your exploration.

### Language Arts

Create an exploration journal. Describe your explorations. What interested you about this exploration? During your nature walk - create a descriptive writing piece that demonstrates how you explored with your 5 senses.

### Music

During your walk, record some of the sounds from nature. How can you replicate or use these sounds to create a new music composition?

### Physical Education

Where will you go to collect your natural specimens? Look to local nature areas - choose a local trail or hiking area and get out moving.



### Social Studies

Create a map of your walk where you will collect natural specimens. Identify where your items were collected on the map. Note the trails, rivers, landmarks or other unique features (perhaps also consider topographical information, scales and gridlines as enrichment opportunities). Organize a local clean up of an area in your town.

### Health

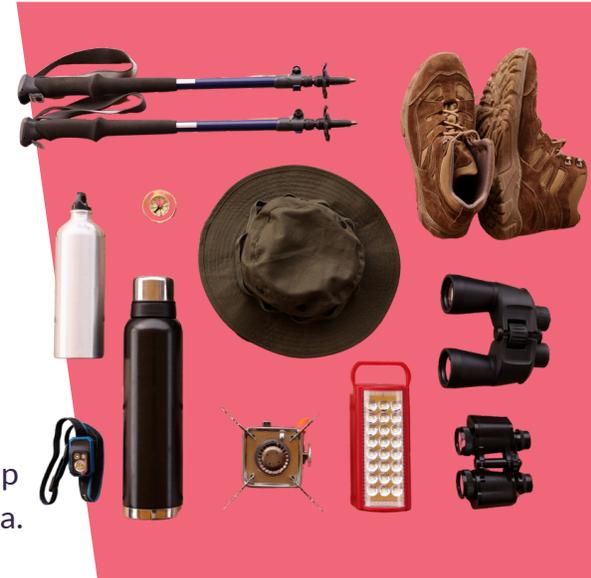
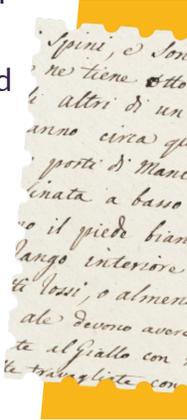
During your nature walk and exploration, plan a meditation to connect with yourself and appreciate the beauty.

### Technology, Education, and Engineering

During your explorations how did you decide what tools were best to use? During your exploration, how did you ensure that you left the area undamaged?

### Take it Further

Identify local, national, international nature conservation groups. Become a member or volunteer to help. Interested in organizing greening initiatives in your area, contact us [julie@brilliantlabs.ca](mailto:julie@brilliantlabs.ca). Become involved in Tree Canada (<https://treecanada.ca/plant-with-us/partner-with-us/>) to help with local tree planting and/or greening initiatives in your area.



## Glossary

### Living

Describe anything that is or has ever been alive (i.e. log);

### Nonliving

Describes anything that is not now nor has ever been alive (i.e. rock)

## Resources

### Natural making

Students who learn in Natural Makerspaces have no walls and often no predetermined classroom area (although some schools do have outdoor classrooms).

### A Bucket Can

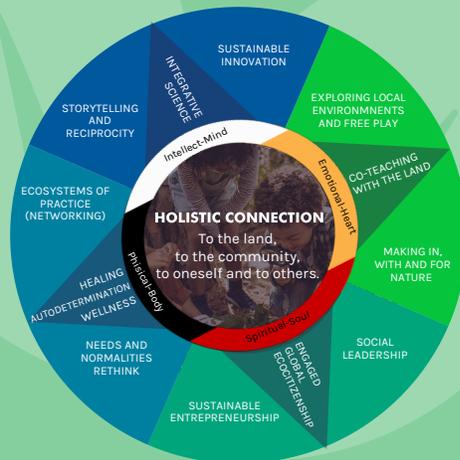
Buckets can be useful to share ideas.



## Learning continuum: Sustainable Innovation Through Holistic Connection

Based on three emerging pedagogies\* and in recognition of indigenous knowledge, the natural maker educational continuum aims to support the learner through a holistic journey of connection to the earth, the community, oneself and others, in order to evolve globally towards a more open, humble, democratic and decolonized way of thinking, learning and living.

\* wild pedagogies, conscious pedagogies and decolonization of education



**#EarthDayInNature**

**#ActForEarth #ClimateAction**

 [brilliantlabs/laboscreatifs](https://www.facebook.com/brilliantlabs/laboscreatifs)

 [brilliantlabs/laboscreatifs](https://www.instagram.com/brilliantlabs/laboscreatifs)

 [@BrilliantLabs](https://www.youtube.com/@BrilliantLabs)

 [brilliantlabs-edu.bsky.social](https://brilliantlabs-edu.bsky.social)

**[brilliantlabs.ca/natural-making](https://brilliantlabs.ca/natural-making)**