



Session 2.2: Sense of place Level 3-5

In today's activity, your child will continue to build their sense of place within their backyard by making a Camera Journal with their special "Camera Lens". They will practice observation skills, and create expressive writing/drawing in response to what they observe.

Before activity starts, help your child review what is **observation**:

Observation is essential in science. Scientists use observation to collect and record data, which enables them to make and then test hypotheses and theories.

Materials needed:

- Pencils
- Crayons
- 1 Hula hoop (If you don't have one, use strings or rope to circle when using instead)
- 1 [Camera Journal](#) (print and staple from link, or see attached pictures at the end)

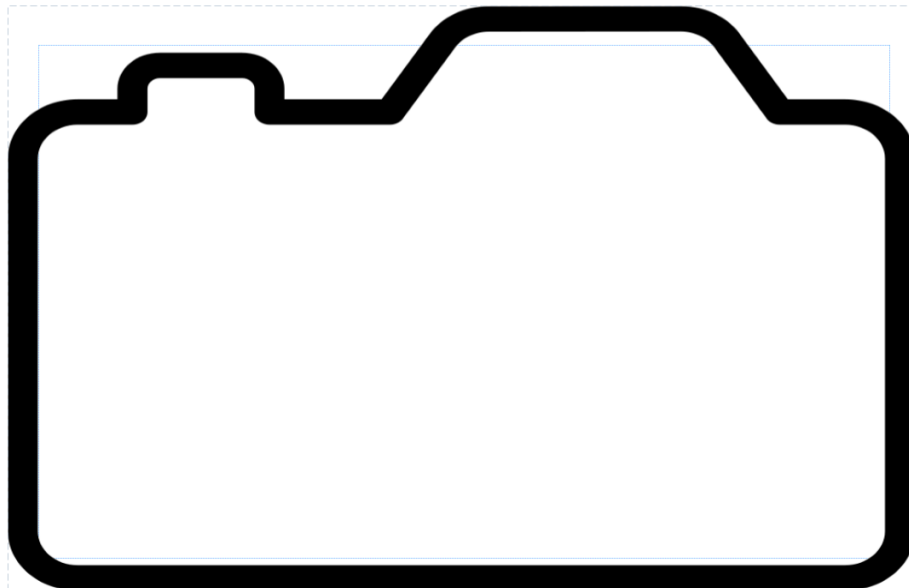
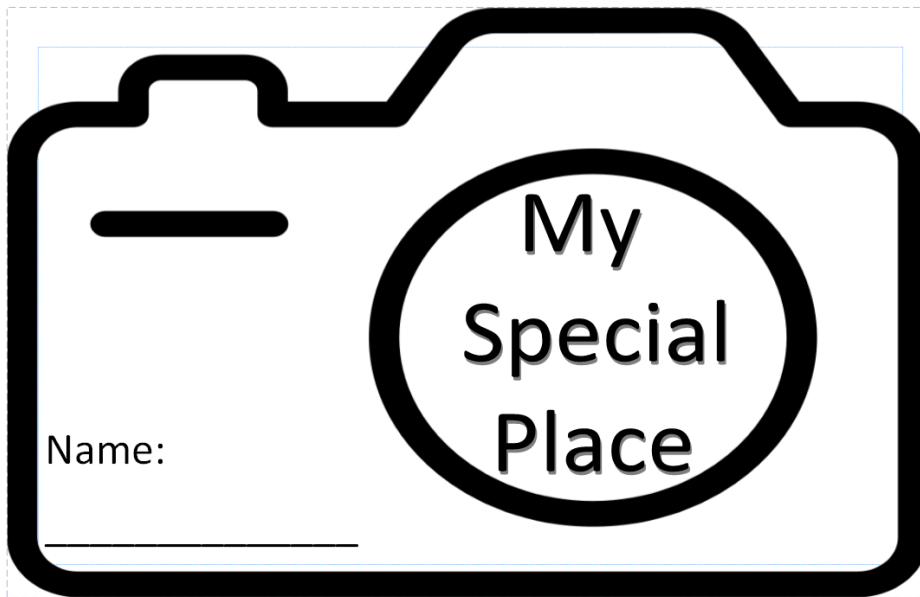
Activity:

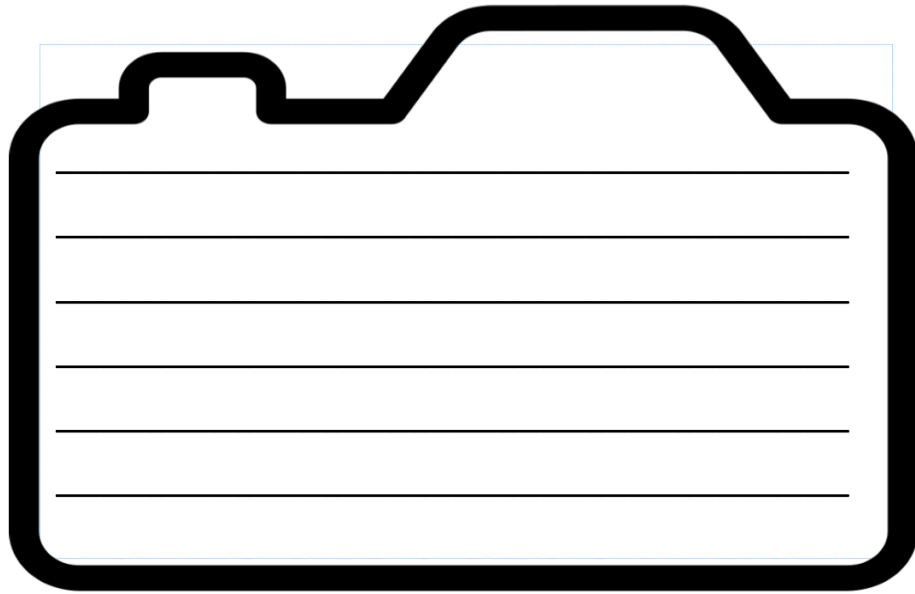
1. Explain to your child that today they will be a photographer and will have another chance to observe the backyard and make their own [Camera Journal](#) with their special "Camera Lens" which is the Hula hoop.
2. Take your child outside in the yard, walk around the area for 10-15 minutes and then ask them to select an area that is "special" to them. Once they decide what is their "favorite" place, ask them to place their hula hoop to delimit their space. Tell them to use their observation skills and really look in depth at the area within their hoop.
3. Ask your child to pretend to take a picture with their paper-made camera and "capture" their special space either by drawing it and/or writing about it. Encourage your child to be creative and to describe their space in a way that they enjoy it the best. (Ex: a poem, a song, a drawing, a detailed description, a story)
4. At the end of their 10-15 minute exploration time, let your child finish their Camera Journal, then give them a chance to share their special place with you and other family members.
5. Use these questions to start a discussion about the place your child chooses.
 - a. Where is your special place?
 - b. Why is this place special to you?
 - c. What objects exist in this place that you choose? (Ex: rock, plant, animal)
 - d. According to the place you choose, as a human, what sense do you have in this place?

- e. Imagine if you are an insect, a plant, or a rock (any item that may exist in this place), what sense you may have?
- f. Could you read the detailed description/sharing the drawing with us?

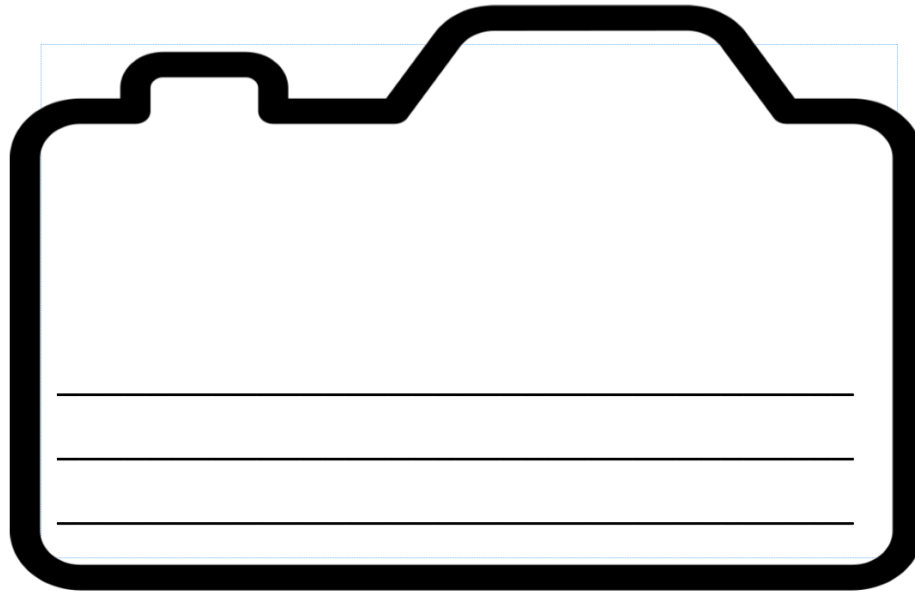
****While getting outside is ideal, if you are unable to get outside, you and your child may observe nature from a distance through a window. Another adaptation could be that they can explore the home for new aspects they may not have noticed before****

Camera Journal:





A large, thick black outline of a clipboard with a handle at the top. The main body of the clipboard contains six horizontal lines for writing.



A large, thick black outline of a clipboard with a handle at the top. The main body of the clipboard contains three horizontal lines for writing.