Scavenger Hunt

Looking for something to do with the kids? How about a scavenger hunt? Try these easy steps for some good old-fashioned fun:

1. Set the stage. Get the kids excited. You can get them binoculars, a magnifying glass or even an explorer costume.
2. Lay out the rules. Give your kids parameters for the hunt. Stick to your neighborhood. Decide on a time frame. Each kid should also have a backpack or plastic bag to collect items. Accompany your child, talk to them about what they find and celebrate their win with them.
3. Compile a list so that your children are excited for their outdoor adventure and know where they will be hunting. Make sure to choose items that can be found in your location. Visit the area before hand to make sure your children are set up for success and the items on your list are present.
4. Print a handout for each child that has the name and small photo of each item so they can identify each item.

Sample List of what you can look for:

1. Flowers- crocuses, tulips, daffodils, pansies
2. Animals or insects- squirrels, chipmunks, robins, chickadees, lady bugs
3. Other Objects-pine cones, budding trees, weeds like clovers
4. Add Fun Facts-
   a. Squirrels can jump 20 feet high.
   b. Sixty million years ago dinosaurs ate pinecones. Now they are a food source for animals like squirrels and woodpeckers.

Sample Hunt

Spot a deer, find 2 leaves from the fall or winter, search a tree branch for a woodpecker, look for a squirrel in a tree, search for water whether it is a puddle or a stream.

Once the hunt is over talk about what you found or have children draw a picture of what they found. Print photos and start a scavenger hunt scrapbook.

Reference: Great Wolf Lodge