



Inventing Time!

NATURE HUNT

Gather your kids and join us in the Invention Dimension! Julius Jr.'s Inventing Time activities give you simple ways to play with your kids that encourage their natural creativity!

Spend time outdoors and explore nature's sights and sounds together!

Objects Needed to Create Your Invention:

- Paper bag for collecting natural materials
- Tape or glue
- Paper
- Scissors
- Crayons or markers

Step Inside the Box with Julius Jr.! Ask Your Kids:

- I notice you found a _____ can you tell me about it?
- What do you hear when you close your eyes?
- What do you see when you look closely at the ground?
- When I look close, I notice _____ on that leaf. What do you notice?
- How does the edge of the leaf feel on your finger?

Now to the Invention Dimension!

Any walk can turn into a nature walk if you slow down and take a closer look at a neighborhood park, your backyard, or even a tree on the sidewalk.



Find an outdoor space where you and your child can be still and feel safe for a few minutes. Now close your eyes and ask your child to listen. You both might occasionally sneak a peek at one another, and even giggle a little. That's okay. Keep returning to the silence for as long as you can. Then, when you're ready, open your eyes and talk about what you heard. Enjoy listening to what your child has heard, and ask if he or she would like to hear your discoveries. You might share sounds you heard which you cannot identify, so you will have to describe or try to imitate what you heard.

Collect a few leaves on your way home. Spend a few moments looking at all of the leaves together. Cut the leaves in half and stick them onto a piece of paper. Invite your child to draw the missing part of the leaf. Set some leaves aside to repeat the activity later with dry leaves. Try repeating the activity with a pencil, pen or marker.

What Your Little Ones are Learning:

This exploration builds children's listening skills, a helpful step towards success in reading. Finding time to be quiet observers also introduces self-control in a welcoming, exciting way to even the smallest preschoolers. A close investigation of leaves helps children with pattern recognition and early math skills. Practice with examining details through careful observation is critical to the later ability to recognize letters, numbers and other symbols.

Why "Inventing Time" Matters

Creative thinking begins early in every child's life. It enables original thought and the ability to see solutions where others don't. It provides the fundamental building blocks for success in school and beyond. Creative play has been proven across multiple research studies to be the best path to developing a life-long capacity for creativity.

Julius Jr. and the Center for Childhood Creativity are working together to create Inventing Time activities to help you support kids' natural creativity.

Every kid can be an inventor just like Julius Jr.!

Learn more about Julius Jr. at www.nickjr.com/julius-jr and Watch on 

The Center for Childhood Creativity's mission is to ignite and advance creative thinking for children.

Learn more about creativity and play at www.CenterForChildhoodCreativity.org

