



EduTrend Contents

EDUTECH · SCIENCE · PRIMARY

Notice and Wonder

Observe everyday objects closely and turn observations into questions

Ages 7–10

Level: Foundation

45 minutes

Groups of 4 · up to 30

Activity 01

Inside: activity at a glance · step-by-step session plan · facilitator notes · 3 pupil worksheets · assessment checklist

ACTIVITY 01 · AT A GLANCE

Notice and Wonder

Pupils receive a tray of everyday objects: a sprouting seed, an ice cube, a feather, a stone and a sponge. They use their senses and hand lenses to record detailed observations, sort them into observations and ideas, and then turn them into questions. The class picks one question to test next lesson.

Learning outcomes

By the end of the session pupils can:

- make careful observations;
- use describing words;
- tell observations from ideas;
- turn observations into questions.

KEY WORDS

observe · describe · compare ·
question · hand lens · evidence

CURRICULUM LINKS

English: describing words. Maths:
measuring and comparing. Art:
observational drawing.

1**OBSERVE**

Look closely

2**QUESTION**

What do we want
to know?

3**PREDICT**

What do we think?

4**TEST**

Fair and repeated

5**ANALYSE**

What does the
evidence show?

6**SHARE**

Explain and discuss

Materials (per group)

- Tray of 5 everyday objects
- Hand lenses
- Rulers
- Worksheets 1, 2 and 3

Before the session

- Prepare one tray per group.
- Start a seed sprouting a week earlier.
- Put ice cubes out at the start.
- Print worksheets.

SAFETY

No tasting. Wash hands after handling seeds
and soil. Mop spills from melting ice.

ACTIVITY 01 · SESSION PLAN

Step by step

Accept every observation at first; sorting them comes later.

Time	What happens	Say or ask
0–5 min Hook	Show one mystery object.	<i>“What do you notice?”</i>
5–20 min Observe	Groups observe and record.	<i>“What else can you see, feel, measure?”</i>
20–30 min Sort	Sort into observations and ideas.	<i>“Did you see it or think it?”</i>
30–40 min Question	Turn observations into questions.	<i>“Could we test it?”</i>
40–45 min Share	Choose a class question.	<i>“How would we find out?”</i>

CHALLENGE CARD (print or copy onto the board)

Record at least eight careful observations about five objects and write two questions that could be tested.

ACTIVITY 01 · FACILITATOR NOTES

The science know-how in brief

Science begins with careful observation. An observation is something we notice with our senses or measure. An idea or explanation is what we think is happening. Keeping the two apart helps pupils see what counts as evidence.

Good investigable questions often start “What happens if...?” or “Which...?”. They name something that can be changed and something that can be observed or measured.

Common ideas to listen for

- “Observing means looking.” Use all safe senses and measure.
- “Every question can be tested.” Some need other methods.
- “My idea is an observation.” Ideas explain; observations describe.

Adapting the activity

Support

Provide word banks for size, colour, texture and shape.

Stretch

Measure objects and add numbers to observations.

WORKSHEET 1

Observation table

Name: _____

Class: _____ Date: _____

Record what you notice.

Observation table

Object	What I see	What I feel or measure
Seed		
Ice		
Feather		
Stone		
Sponge		

WORKSHEET 2

Observation or idea?

Sort your sentences.

Observation or idea?

Sentence	Observation	Idea
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		

WORKSHEET 3

My questions

Turn observations into questions.

Questions we could test

FOR THE TEACHER

Assessment checklist

Use during the session. One sheet covers up to eight pupils; copy as needed.

Pupil	Observes carefully	Separates observation from idea	Asks testable questions

Suggested codes: W = working towards · E = expected · G = greater depth

ABOUT THIS ACTIVITY

Notice and Wonder is a sample activity from the EduTrend Contents Edutech Science programme (primary, level: foundation). Every activity in the programme follows the same format: a practical challenge, a clear session plan, facilitator notes and ready-to-print worksheets, so that teachers, club leaders and parents can run it without extra preparation.

Full 15-, 20- and 32-week programmes are available from EduStore at edutrend.org.

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