

# I Notice, I Wonder, It Reminds Me Of

## Ways to Extend the Learning

Use the activities below to reinforce the concepts.

- Practice the three prompts over and over again with different objects that you are curious about. Share this with others.
- Reflect on your experience after completing the activity. Ask yourself, “Did I learn anything that surprised me?”
- Look for patterns in your observations. Is there something that occurs repeatedly? For example, when observing frogs, is there a general rule about where they can be found?
- Add a fourth prompt such as “I think that...” This prompt focuses on a possible explanation for what is happening. Make sure your explanation is based on observations.
- Sort your questions into categories.
  - Testable: A question that can be answered through further observation or investigation. Some questions may be testable right now. (Are there other leaves like this around?) Other questions may require a longer investigation. (How long does the leaf take to decompose?)
  - Researchable: A question whose answer can be looked up using a resource such as a book or internet source. (What kind of tree did this leaf come from?)
  - Not testable or researchable, but interesting: A question whose answer is not knowable by science but could be explored through another lens such as philosophy, imagination, or personal belief. (If this leaf could talk, what stories would it tell?)

## New York State Science Learning Standards

### Science and Engineering Practices

Asking questions and defining problems; planning and carrying out investigations; obtaining, evaluating and communicating information

### Crosscutting Concepts

Patterns, Structure and Function

## Objective of the Program

Students will make observations, ask questions, and make connections through interaction with the natural world.

Note: This activity was adapted from BEETLES (Better Environmental Education Teaching, Learning, and Expertise Sharing), a program of The Lawrence Hall of Science at the University of California, Berkeley. For the full lesson plan visit, <http://beetlesproject.org/cms/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/I-Notice-I-Wonder-It-Reminds-Me-Of.pdf>



## I Notice, I Wonder, It Reminds Me Of

Today you learned about **making observations, asking questions, and making connections**. Pick a natural object you are curious about. Complete the sentences below in at least ten ways (or more) for each prompt.

### **Making Observations** (An observation is something you notice with your senses: sight, hearing, smell, touch.)

I notice ...

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### **Asking Questions**

I wonder ...

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### **Making Connections**

It reminds me of...

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