

Flashcards

My First NATURE

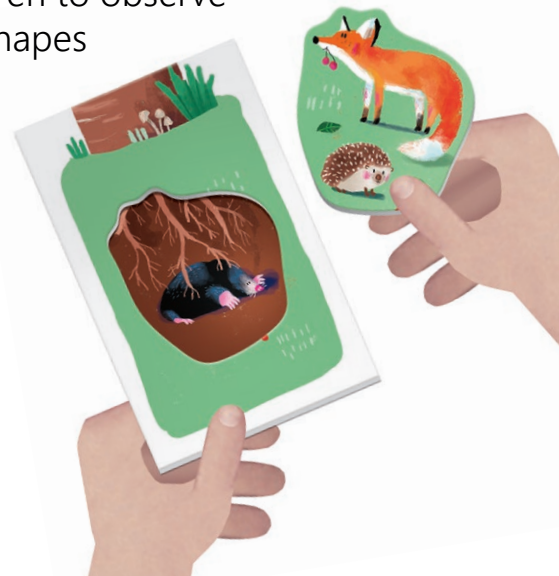
Montessori

The Montessori method envisions that children, from early childhood, discover nature and its elements both through outdoor activities - in the garden, in the vegetable garden - and through the use of materials that allow them to expand their outdoor experiences.



OUTDOORS

Organize an outdoor activity that can in some way reproduce, through contact with nature, an experience like the one already carried out with the cards. You might choose to visit a garden or a vegetable garden near your home. Even a balcony or a terrace with plants would be fine. Identify a suitable area and explore it together with the children. Draw their attention to the plants, types of leaves, flowers, fruits, but also the rocks and other elements of the surrounding environment. Help them observe the plants, inviting the children to recognize their various parts: the stem, branches, crown. Ask them where the roots are and formulate some hypotheses together. Encourage the children to observe the leaves and flowers, trying to describe their shapes (try to collect examples of deciduous and coniferous plants). Finally, collect some samples of each observed natural object that you can take home. For example, for each type of leaf we can take two specimens, the same for the flowers, the fruits, the pine cones and so on. Put everything in a bag and, once at home, help the children clean both the selected "samples" and the bag in which they were placed.



silver fir

foliage



owl

branch

trunk

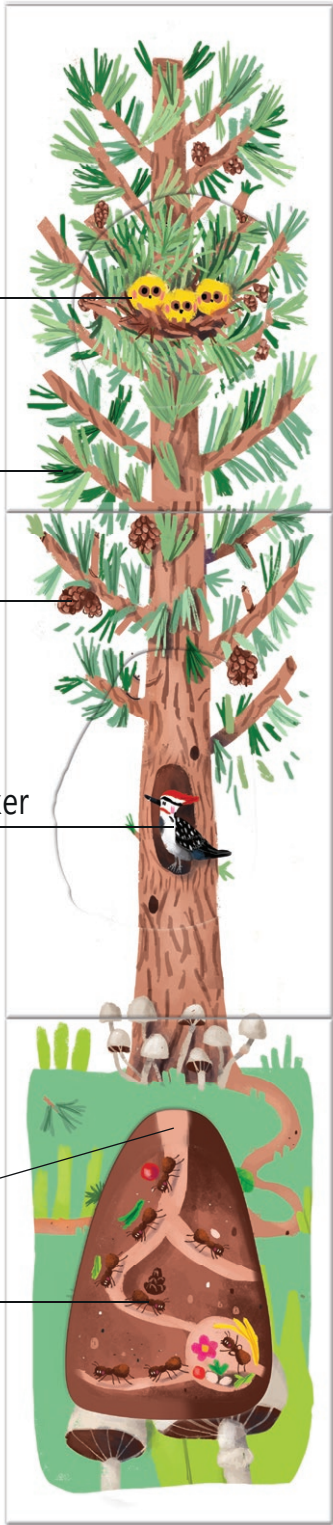
squirrel

mushrooms

anthill

common frog

stem



nest

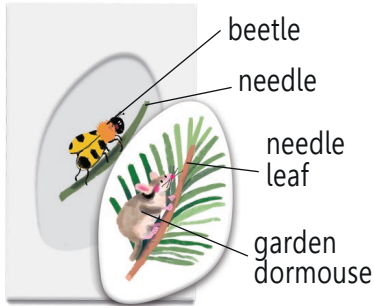
leaves

pine cone

woodpecker

roots

ants



beetle

needle

needle leaf

garden dormouse

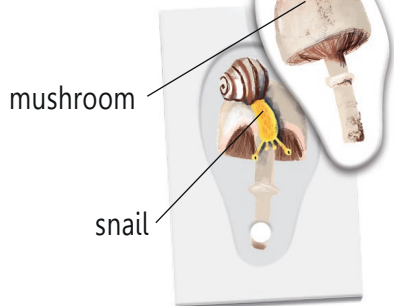


red crossbill

seeds

spider

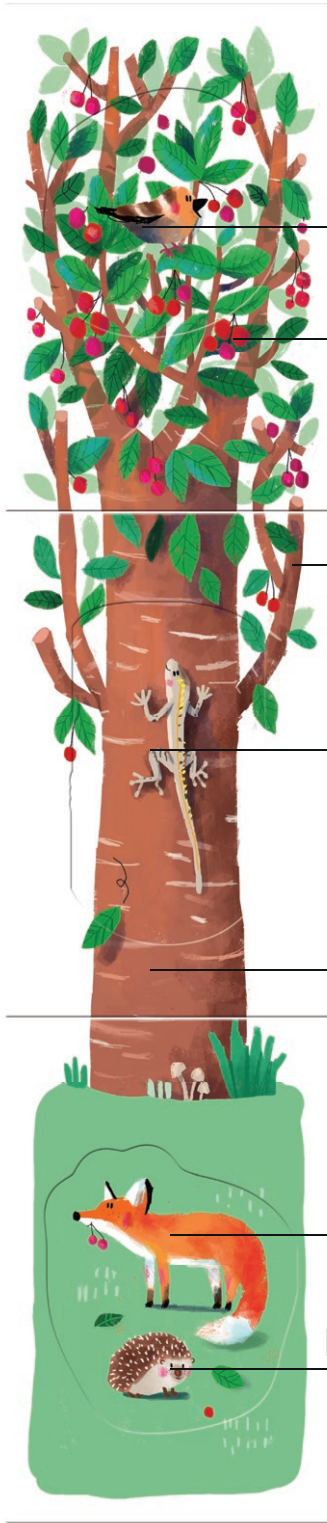
pine cone



mushroom

snail

cherry tree



hawfinch

fruits

branch

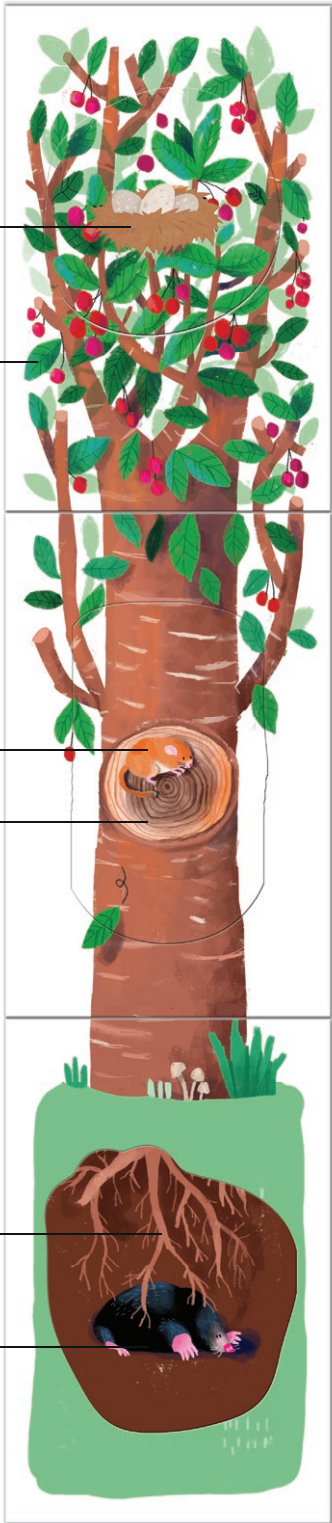
lizard

trunk

fox

hedgehog

foliage



nest

leaf

stem

dormouse

growth rings

roots

mole



leaf

caterpillar

butterfly



bee

bumblebee

flower



ladybug

cherry (fruit)

worm

stone

A NATURE TABLE WITH FLASHCARDS

Prepare a suitable table for the children on which to display in an orderly manner all the natural objects that you have collected during your outdoor experience. In this activity, the child must have the opportunity to observe, touch, study, experiment, ask questions and make hypotheses independently. Provide some boxes (wide with low sides) or trays on which the children can divide the objects according to their type and category. Keep a magnifying glass within reach to get a closer look at all the details. Compare the objects you have collected with the flashcards of the leaves and fruits. Finally, group all the samples according to their category (leaves, flowers, fruits). You can also use the flashcards to classify the objects that are in the boxes or on the trays.

