

Two Meter Mile

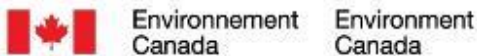


This lesson plan was produced by the Mayne Island Conservancy Society in 2016 as part of the Nature Discovery Project

Funding for was provided by:



Ce projet a été réalisé avec l'appui financier de :
This project was undertaken with the financial support of:



Activity Name: Two Meter Mile

Ages: 5-10

Activity Energy: Medium

Length of time: 30 minutes

Number of Participants: Limited by # of magnifying glasses. Works best with groups of 10 or less.

Indoor/Outdoor: Outdoor

Concept: Students will go on a two meter hike using a magnifying lens to investigate obstacles in their path and create an adventure story set in their miniature landscape.

Materials Required: Measuring tape, something to mark the beginning and end (Popsicle sticks etc.), magnifying glass for each student.

Introduction: We don't often notice things that are small, but in nature the smallest things are often the most important and abundant. This lesson encourages both scientific curiosity and imagination. Working alone, students come up with a story that describes the travels of a 0.5 centimeter tall character across two meters of forest floor or other environment.

Methods:

1. First, have the students make up a character. Tell them the character they make up will be going on a journey through the wilderness. Their character is only 0.5cm tall and they will be traveling through 2 meters of wilderness.
2. Create markers using two meter lengths of string tied between two sticks. This will represent the journey the characters will take. Allow the students to choose the location of their characters journey and set up the markers.
3. Provide each student with a notebook and microscope and ask them to write an adventure story about their characters journey through the wilderness. What does the landscape look like? Are there trees and forests? Does their character see any animals along the way? What are some of the obstacles and challenges faced by their miniature character? For younger students an oral narration of their characters adventure may be more appropriate.

Tips for Teachers:

- Have the students set up far enough apart that they are on their own. This lesson is about the imagination of individual students.
- Make sure the students set up their own two meter journey; selecting the location is half the fun.
- Some students may want to share the story they came up with while others may be shy. We asked for students to share on a voluntary basis and had everyone record their story in a notebook to determine participation.