

Nature Framing

Tallgrass Prairie Center, University of Northern Iowa

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Nature Framing (K-8)

Curriculum Connection: Art or Visual Arts; Language (Oral Communication)

Materials: One empty frame per student (use construction paper or cardstock) or students can use their fingers/hands

Activity: Every student is given an empty frame in a natural area. Students are the artists, looking through their frames for perspective and a scene they enjoy. Leave frames at their spots and regroup as a class to go on a gallery walk to each frame. Each frame is held by the artist for the class to peer through as it is described aloud.

Possible Prompts or Leading Questions:

- Pick a natural scene with your frame that reflects your mood
- Use your imagination and frame a setting or object to represent a character or place in a story
- Frame a scene that reminds you of a past experience

Extensions & Other Options:

- Instead of completing a gallery walk, use clipboards and draw the scene instead. Back indoors color or decorate the framed scene.
- Create a story revolving around your framed scene (ELA: Writing)
- Get into groups and add characters to the picture to perform a short drama or skit