



Dandelion I Spy, Can You Find the NBNC Lion? **Grades: pre-k-5**

Explore: Take a close look at a dandelion plant. What color/s are the flowers? What texture? Dandelion means "teeth of a lion" in French. Does part of this plant look like lions' teeth? What part does? How so? Does part of this plant feel and look like the fur of a lion's mane? How so? Think about those parts.

CAUTION: BE AWARE OF BEES ON THE FLOWERS. CONSIDER CHILDREN WITH ALLERGIES TO BEE STINGS AND TO POLLEN.

Create: Can You Find the NBNC Lion?

Children will make a male lion sculpture to hide and find with friends and family.

1. **MAKE:** Punch many holes around the rim of a paper plate. 2. Pick dandelion flowers and thread through sets of holes. 3. Continue until there is a "mane" of flowers all around the plate. 4. Draw a cat face on the plate.
 2. **PLAY:** in partners or teams, one person places a lion in an unusual place, and says, "I spy with my little eye a lion..." and gives 1 clue to the lion's location. The other/s make a guess and hunt around until they find the lion or give up. Take turns being hiders/clue givers or finders.
 3. Notice what the flowers look like by the end of the game. Have they changed? How?
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Reflect and Share: *What size is best, how long a stem is needed, how many flowers are enough? Do the flowers change after picking? What happens? Is it best to pick a lot at once or is 1 at a time more useful? Why? Is it best to work in the shade or in the sun? Why? Are there any challenges to picking the flowers, any other creatures that may be using a flower you would like to pick? Which creature, what do you do?*

Materials: Paper plate, hole punch, crayons or markers. **Maybe:** sunscreen, tick repellent, hat

Why: *Problem Solving, Self Direction, Motor Planning, STEAM, Creativity, Sense and Knowledge of Place.*

Inspired by: Leslie

Photos:





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