

## E.T. - A LOCAL WAY OF LEARNING

**Title:** SCHOOLYARD PUZZLE  
**Author:** Eulalie R. Rivera Elementary School  
Environmental Education Team  
**Grade Level:** K-1

**Concepts:**  
2. Ecosystem  
6. Resources  
8. Values and Attitudes

**Disciplines:**  
1. Language Arts  
2. Science  
3. Social Studies  
4. Art

**Objective:**  
By the following directions, children will identify common things in the schoolyard, print and spell correctly the words for the names of such things to spell the word NATURE in the dark lined blocks of the worksheet.

**Rationale:**  
A little different activity to introduce children early to simple observation and recording skills that uses the outdoors for a classroom while at the same time teaches language skills is very beneficial.

**Materials Needed:**  
With the activity sheets, the students will need a pencil and something with a hard surface to write on. Anything will do, a piece of cardboard or a worksheet.

**Directions/Activity:**  
Keep the class as one group as you need to read the items and lead the group to different places around the schoolyard. The children should actually have seen the thing called for in each name before they print it out. Children should have only the activity sheets.

1. Stand quietly someplace around the school building or near some trees. Look carefully. Do you see an animal with feathers anywhere? What kind of animal is this? Print the name of that animal here:

\_\_\_\_\_

Then print the name in the blocks with the number "5", in them, starting with the top block and go down.

2. In the schoolyard, do you see a tall growing plant? It has branches. It is green with leaves. What is the name of this kind of plant? Print the name here.

\_\_\_\_\_

Then print this name in the blocks with the number "6" in them, again starting with the top block and go down.

3. Does your schoolyard have places that look like a green carpet? Sometimes the groundkeeper cuts this with a lawnmower. What grows here to make such a nice green carpet? Print the name here:

\_\_\_\_\_

Then print this word in the blocks with the number "2" in them. Start with the top block and go down.

4. Go to the place where you can play. Look around for a place where nothing grows. Can you find a place where the ground is almost white, and if you take a handful, it runs through your fingers? What do you call this kind of ground? Print the name here:

\_\_\_\_\_

Then print the letters in the blocks with the number "1" in them, again Start with the top block and go down.

5. You may find it hard to see these little animals. Look around the school building where the ground is bare or in cracks in the sidewalk or driveway. If you find them, there usually are many of them, and they are busy little animals. Do you see any? What is this little animal called? Print the name here.

\_\_\_\_\_

Then print this word in the blocks with the number "3", from top to bottom.

6. Look around the school building or in the schoolyard. Do you see any smaller, lower plants? The leaves are green all the time; some may have flowers or berries. What is the name of a plant like this? Print the name here?

\_\_\_\_\_

Then print this word on the blocks with the number "4", again start with the top and go down.

7. If you found all these things in your schoolyard, and you have the correct name for each one printed in the blocks with the right numbers, what word do the blocks with the dark lines spell? Print that word here.

\_\_\_\_\_

Can you tell the class what this word means?

8. (Optional) For a bulletin board display have the children draw small pictures in the right blocks of each thing named.

1	2	3		5	6
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1	2	3	4	5	6
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1	2	3	4	5	6
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1	2	3	4	5	6
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Activity Sheet	2
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4	Name _____
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KEY

<sup>1</sup> S	<sup>2</sup> G	<sup>3</sup> A		<sup>5</sup> B	<sup>6</sup> T
<sup>1</sup> A	<sup>2</sup> R	<sup>3</sup> N	<sup>4</sup> B	<sup>5</sup> I	<sup>6</sup> R
<sup>1</sup> <i>N</i>	<sup>2</sup> <i>A</i>	<sup>3</sup> <i>T</i>	<sup>4</sup> <i>U</i>	<sup>5</sup> <i>R</i>	<sup>6</sup> <i>E</i>
<sup>1</sup> D	<sup>2</sup> S	<sup>3</sup> S	<sup>4</sup> S	<sup>5</sup> D	<sup>6</sup> E
Activity Sheet	<sup>2</sup> S		<sup>4</sup> H	Name _____	

