



Primary

Focus

Science

EXERCISE 06

Parent Objective

To further your child's understanding of, and appreciation for, the natural world.

"He absorbs the life going on about him and becomes one with it."

Dr. Maria Montessori, *The Absorbent Mind*



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Judy Laidlaw

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resources.montessori.agency

Maria Montessori's Education of Nature

Making Rainbows



Outside Activity #1

Materials:

Garden hose with an adjustable nozzle

Preparation:

Arrange to do this activity on a sunny day, either in the afternoon or in the morning, when the sun is not directly overhead.

Instructions:

1. Invite your child to make rainbows with you.
2. Standing with your back to the sun, adjust the hose nozzle to the finest spray.
3. Direct the spray away from the sun at a 45 degree angle above the horizontal. (The rainbow is easiest to observe if the spray is directed toward a dark or shaded background.)
4. Observe the spectrum.
5. Invite your child to take a turn.
6. With your child, see if all the colors of the rainbow can be observed and identified.
7. Enjoy!



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Inside Activity #2

Materials:

Fish bowl or large glass jar

Preparation:

Choose a room receiving direct bright sunlight.

Instructions:

1. Invite your child to make a rainbow with you.
2. Fill the fish bowl or jar about $\frac{3}{4}$ full with water.
3. Hold it in the direct sunlight and look for the spectrum to appear on the wall or ceiling.
4. If the container is not too heavy, invite your child to take a turn.
5. With your child, see if all the colors of the rainbow can be identified.
6. Enjoy!