

## Outdoor &amp; Woodland Learning Activity Sheet

<b>Activity:</b>	Nature's Opposites											
<b>Habitat:</b>	Any			<b>Season:</b>	S	✓	S	✓	A	✓	W	✓

Level	
Early	
First	✓
Second	✓
Third and Fourth	✓
Senior Phase	

Curriculum topics			
Expressive Arts		Health and Wellbeing	✓
Languages	✓	Mathematics	✓
Religious & Moral Ed		Sciences	
Social Studies		Technology	

Equipment*
<b>Natures Opposite egg boxes</b> (not essential – see alternative note at bottom of activity description)
<b>Natures Opposite words</b>

Time
30 minutes

Key outcomes
Explore and learn descriptive words and their application to objects

\*Items depicted in bold are available from CALLP

Activity description
<p>In each egg box there are three pairs of words. Each of the three that represent the top row of holes have their corresponding opposite word that represent the bottom row of holes. For example:</p> <p>Fast Hot Loud</p> <p>Slow Cold Quiet</p> <p>Participants are divided into pairs and each are given a box. They are asked to search for items in nature that represent each descriptive word and put it in the corresponding hole. Once completed, they pair up with another pair, and take it in turns to try and guess the descriptive words of the found objects. Knowing that the objects are paired into “opposites” can help to work out what the descriptive words might be, by comparing them and picking up on their differences.</p> <p>Instructions and opposite word examples are available on the next pages in case you would like to make your own. Step-by-step guide available below.</p> <p><b>As an alternative</b> laminate words (examples attached) and draw a grid in situ in the sand, or create using sticks. This reduces equipment to prep and carry, and is a more viable option in wet weather.</p>

Notes
<p>This can be used as a warm up for story writing, or nature exploration such as ID work, in thinking about words to describe characteristics of findings etc.</p> <p>Follow on activities available in the Learning Zone:</p> <p><b>Explore Like a Victorian</b> (renaming plants and creatures in the natural world based on their characteristics)</p> <p><b>The Lost Words Activities</b> (exploring nature words that have been removed from the Oxford children’s dictionary, including poetry writing)</p>



## Scavenger hunt – Nature's Opposites

1. Pick an egg box
2. Open the lid to reveal some descriptive words. Note that the words are in pairs – the word above is the opposite of the word below.
3. Go for a walk and see if you can find one object per word.
4. Put each object in the egg box cup that matches its word.
5. Cover the words, find a friend and see if they can guess the descriptive word for each object.

<b>Big</b>	<b>Small</b>
<b>Clean</b>	<b>Dirty</b>
<b>Early</b>	<b>Late</b>
<b>Fast</b>	<b>Slow</b>
<b>Full</b>	<b>Empty</b>
<b>Happy</b>	<b>Sad</b>
<b>Heavy</b>	<b>Light</b>
<b>Hot</b>	<b>Cold</b>
<b>Interesting</b>	<b>Boring</b>
<b>Light</b>	<b>Dark</b>
<b>Long</b>	<b>Short</b>
<b>Loud</b>	<b>Quiet</b>
<b>Many</b>	<b>Few</b>
<b>New</b>	<b>Old</b>
<b>Safe</b>	<b>Dangerous</b>

<b>Smooth</b>	<b>Rough</b>
<b>Soft</b>	<b>Hard</b>
<b>Strong</b>	<b>Weak</b>
<b>Tall</b>	<b>Short</b>
<b>Thick</b>	<b>Thin</b>
<b>Warm</b>	<b>Cool</b>
<b>Wet</b>	<b>Dry</b>
<b>Wide</b>	<b>Narrow</b>
<b>Young</b>	<b>Old</b>

## Nature's Opposites – step by step guide

### **A descriptive word game that gets participants thinking about adjectives.**

You will need:

- 3 pairs of opposites words (see below for a list of suggestions).
- An egg box or a piece of paper with a grid of six squares drawn on (or you could draw a grid in sand/soil with a stick). Each box represents a word, and the top word is the opposite of the word below it, as demonstrated here:

Big	Thick	Hard
Small	Thin	Soft

What to do:

1. Go and explore an outdoor place.
2. Look for an object in nature that matches one of the descriptive words.
3. Place that object in the space that matches its descriptive word.
4. Keep looking for objects until your grid is filled.
5. Hide the words from view and see if another person can guess the correct descriptive word for each object.

Tips:

Make sure the objects look like opposites of each other (for example for “big” and “small”, you might find a large stone and a small seed. The guessing person can then compare the two different objects to try and work out what is different about them, to help them work out what the descriptive word might be.

Remember to be respectful of living creatures. Do not do anything to harm them, and please put them back where you found them. If in doubt, leave it out (of the activity)!

Additional activity suggestions (for younger age groups):

- Take one of the items and see if other objects can be found of a similar size/shape/colour).
- Take away the grid and line the objects up smallest to biggest.
- See if there any other similarities or differences between all the objects.
- Create a similar grid for colours and go searching for colours in nature.

Additional activity suggestions (for older age groups):

- Look at the objects you have found. can you think of any other adjectives that can be used to describe them?
- Do any of the objects also match any other descriptive words on your grid?
- Write the words down (either with a pen and paper or using a stick in sand/soil). Use a dictionary or ask a family member to help you with spelling if you need help.
- Ask a family member to do the activity and see if you can guess the opposite words from the objects they have found.

Big

Light

Strong

Small

Dark

Weak

Fast

Thick

Young

Slow

Thin

Old

Smooth

Tall

Loud

Rough

Short

Quiet



Many

Warm

Patterned

Few

Cool

Plain