



Seek & Find

Indoor/Outdoor • 5–25 minutes



Overview

In this fun and creative activity, children will build simple binoculars, then head outside to search for hidden animals or natural treasures.



Get Ready

Suggested Supplies

- ✓ Paper towel tubes (1 per child, cut in half)
- ✓ Construction paper, stickers, or paints for decoration
- ✓ Stapler, glue, or tape
- ✓ Hole punch
- ✓ String or yarn
- ✓ Toy animals, animal cutouts, or nature items to hide



Set up the Topic

Today we're going to make our own binoculars and go on a special hide-and-seek adventure! We'll search outside for hidden animals and treasures, just like nature detectives. We'll use our observation skills. Observation is more than just looking – it is about noticing details that other people might miss.



At a Glance Steps

Step 1:

Make binoculars with recycled cardboard tubes, decorating with art supplies or natural materials.

Step 2:

Choose which animals to hide and find—colored animal cutouts, toys, and stuffed animals are all good options.



Step 3:

Hide the animals in an outdoor space, challenging yourself to place them where they would be found in the wild (e.g. an owl plush on a tree branch).

Step 4:

Use binoculars to find hidden animals and tell stories about what they're doing. Repeat in different spaces and seasons or with different animals!



Children Are Working On

Strengthening observation and
attention skills

Identifying colors, shapes, and
patterns

Engaging in imaginative play

Describing and storytelling

Developing fine and gross
motor skills

Try This!



Before hiding the animals, read a picture book or look at photos of where those animals live. Children can then match their hiding spots to real habitats, inspiring curiosity and building knowledge about wildlife.