

Camp Fire

MINNESOTA

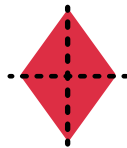
My nature connection

Recommended for grades k- 6

SYMMETRY IN NATURE

WHAT IS SYMMETRY?

Symmetry means an object has two or more sides that are identical. Something is symmetrical if you can draw a line down the middle and the parts on each side look like mirror images. A few examples of symmetrical shapes are: a heart, a diamond, and a star. Can you think of any other symmetrical shapes?



WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Camera (optional)
- Paper
- Glue or Tape
- Pencil or colored pencils

FIND SYMMETRY IN NATURE

Have you ever noticed how many things in nature are balanced? It's not always perfect, but take a look at the leaves on the ground, a butterfly laying flat, or even a piece of fruit. You will start to notice symmetry all around!

Try going for a walk to see how many examples of symmetry you can find. Some things, like a twisty tree branch, do not look the same on both sides. These would be called asymmetrical. See if you can find beauty in both and take pictures of your discoveries.



PARTNER UP

Pick up a leaf from the ground (not from a tree!) and bring it home with you. Carefully cut the leaf in half. Keep one half and give the other half to a partner. Tape or glue the half leaf to a piece of paper and draw the mirror image of it to complete the whole leaf. Have your partner do the same. Once you're both done, compare your projects. Do they look similar? Was your leaf symmetrical or asymmetrical?