

Nature's Classroom: Reimagining Education With Indigenous Perspectives



Discussion #1

What does "land as the first teacher" mean to you?

*It means we can learn a lot from nature by observing how plants and animals live.

Discussion #2

Why is it important to learn the names of plants and animals in your area?

*Knowing their names helps us understand and care for them better.

Discussion #3

What does it mean to see nature
as part of our community?

*It means treating plants and animals like neighbors who
deserve care and respect.

Discussion #4

What questions do you have about something you saw or learned outside?

*I want to know why some flowers have five petals while others have more.



Discussion #5

What does it mean to think with
an open heart and mind?

*It means being willing to learn from others, even if their
ideas are different from mine.

Discussion #6

Why is it important to know
whose land we live on?

*It helps us respect the people who cared for the
land before us.

Discussion #7

What can you do to care for the
land in your community?

*I can help pick up trash and plant trees or flowers.

Discussion #8

How does working with classmates outside feel different from working in the classroom?

*It feels more fun and helps us work together better because we're exploring new things.

Discussion #9

What does it mean to you when someone says, "Nature invites us to learn"?

*It means that nature has so much to teach us, such as how plants grow or how animals live, if we pay attention to it.

Discussion #10

How can naming a place, like a tree or a rock you visit often, make it feel special?

*It makes the place feel like a friend, and it reminds me of all the things I've seen and learned there.