

WORKSHOP EXTENSION ACTIVITY

Built by The Home Depot Kids Workshops

September 2023: Microscope

Ages 5-12

CONNECT.

Have you ever looked at something with a magnifying glass before? A microscope is like a powerful magnifying glass that is used to make small things look larger. Microscopes can be used to solve crimes, diagnose diseases, examine gemstones, study microscopic life, learn about fossils, and more!

INVESTIGATE.

How big an object can appear under a microscope depends on the strength of the microscope's lenses. A microscope with a 10x magnification lens, for example, can make things look ten times larger than they are in real life. Many microscopes have two or more different lenses! Your microscope has a 3x magnification lens and a 5x magnification lens.

Before you try out your microscope, you'll need something to observe. Grab a bag and take a walk outside with an adult. Together, collect different items in nature that you'd like to observe close up—like leaves, flowers, rocks, or twigs.

Then go back inside and take turns observing the items you collected under the microscope. Be sure to look at each object with both the 3x magnification lens and the 5x magnification lens. As you do, consider: In what ways does the object seem to change with different magnifications? In what ways does it stay the same?

INNOVATE.

Choose one item that you found interesting to observe. You're now going to turn these observations into a work of art!

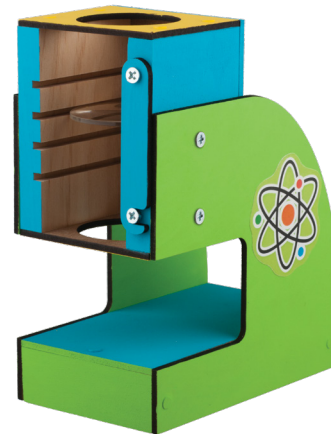
You'll need:

- Your microscope
- Craft sticks, at least 12
- Craft glue
- Poster board or foam board
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Art supplies of your choice, such as: colored pencils, crayons, or acrylic paint
- Optional: Twine

1. First, create three square frames with the craft sticks and glue, using the image here as a model.
2. Use the paint to decorate the frames with colors and designs!



3. Once the frames are dry, place the three frames next to each other *and* on top of your poster board or foam board.
4. Ask a family member to help you hold the frames in place, and use the pencil to trace a rectangle around all three frames.
5. Cut out the rectangle and then glue the frames to this piece of poster board, so they look like picture frames!
6. Now add pictures to the frames! In the first frame, use the pencil to draw a picture of what the nature item looks like with your own two eyes! Be sure to include all of the details you see and then add color.
7. Then place this item back under your Microscope and observe it with the 3x magnification lens. Sketch what you see in the second frame, being careful to include any new details. Then add color!
8. Finally, observe the same object with the 5x magnification lens and fill in the third frame.
9. When your artwork is complete, think about where you should put it. If you have room on a wall in your home, use the glue and twine to create a loop on the back of the frames to make it easier to hang. Otherwise, it may be the perfect addition to a table or bookshelf.



Your activity is focused on a microscope, which allows you to make something appear larger than it is! An important part of an **Electrician's** job is closely examining the wiring that keeps our homes and communities running. An **Electrician** is an expert at electrical power and helps to keep it on!

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