



Open-Sky  
School

Category  
ENGLISH



*Activity*

# Write and Decorate a Postcard

## MATERIALS

- Small bags
- 1 envelope per student
- Blank index cards
- String
- Clothespins
- Stamps
- Pencils
- Double-sided tape
- Glue

## DURATION

45 MINUTES

## Activity Summary

Students write and decorate a postcard inspired by nature, and will send it to a person, animal, or imaginary character of their choice. Students can also take on the role of a plant or animal writing a postcard to another living being. This activity allows students to create their postcards using elements of nature.

## Preparation

- Find a space in nature where students can pick up natural elements.
- Form teams and hand out small bags so they can pick up natural elements. Do not close the bags if the elements are wet.
- A variation might be to make giant postcards to give you plenty of space to write and create.



## Steps

**A.** To begin, in small groups, students pick up natural elements. Each team receives a bag and students look around for different objects.

**B. Writing:**

- Students write a postcard from nature.

For the "writing" side, say:

- Imagine you're on vacation and you're sending a postcard from that place. Write what you like most about this place. The postcard can be addressed to a real or imaginary person; It can be written by a plant or by an animal for another living being.

**C. Arts and Crafts:**  
Students draw a nature postcard.

For the "arts" side of the card, students use the following techniques:

- Use glue and double-sided tape to stick natural elements to the postcard.
- Color the postcard by rubbing flowers and leaves directly on the card.
- Paint on the postcard.
- Using white glue, outline a simple pattern on the postcard, sprinkle the entire postcard with sifted earth or sand, then blow: the pattern appears in earth or sand.
- Gather beautiful autumn leaves or delicate spring flowers and dry them; then place them on the card using double-sided tape or glue.

RETURN  
TO GROUP

Once finished, the cards are hung to dry using clothespins on a line of string, where they can be admired.

### REINVESTMENT :

Student can write the recipient's address on an envelope, stick a stamp (real or fabricated) on the card and "give" the letter to an imaginary bird that will fly to the destination. What could this bird be? Is it a migratory bird? How far is it from here, our outdoor location, to the recipient? What animal from our outdoor place could travel this distance?



Adapted from:

© Wauquiez, S., Barras, N., & Henzi, M. (2020). *L'école à ciel ouvert: 200 activités de plein air pour enseigner* (pp. 72-75). Silvana: France.

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