

## P4C resources

### Egg Box Treasure Hunt

A popular activity to accompany a walk with children is to take egg boxes and collect things from nature to study.

With a couple of simple moves, this can become a great way to get into some philosophical enquiry. Interest is guaranteed and you get the chance for some outdoor philosophizing.

Collecting can be done as individuals, in pairs or small groups. Best if everyone joins in. 😊



#### 1. Go collecting with egg boxes

Let everyone know that the aim is to collect 6 different interesting things. These might be anything – a pebble, a stick, a leaf and so on. Do make sure children collect safely and if anything alive is collected that it's returned safe and well. Encourage everyone to change their minds, look at other people's, react, have fun.

#### 2. Show and share

When everyone has 6, invite collectors to show some of their finds, describe them, and share some reasons why they picked up the things they did. You might want to try 'I collected this one because...' or 'I like this one because...'.

#### 3. Appreciate

Have each person (or small group) choose one item they like from someone else's box and say why they like it.

#### 3. Put them in order

Ask participants to put the items into pairs – most interesting at one end, least interesting at the other.

#### 4. Gather some reasons and big ideas

Gather – perhaps write down and display – the different sorts of reasons why items were collected and ranked. Beauty? Taste? Strangeness? Useful? Weird?... Gather any other big ideas too – Nature? Wonder? Fun?... Try to get participants themselves to give their own reasons and big ideas in a word or two.

#### 5. Make some questions

Ask each person (or small group) to generate one open question as a dialogue-starter. Encourage participants to make philosophical challenging questions that include at least one of the reasons or big ideas that you gathered.

#### 6. Choose a question for dialogue

Think together about which question might be good to start a dialogue. Choose one or more by voting or talk about each one in turns. When you've decided on one, get the dialogue started.