



The Prompt Jar

Sample Set Edition



Which Jar Is Right for Your Child?



Little Naturalist

(Ages 2-5)

Drawing and verbal prompts — no writing required. Your child draws, collects, and tells you their answer while you write it down for them.

Perfect for little hands and big imaginations.



Young Naturalist

(Ages 6-10)

Writing and drawing prompts for kids who are ready to put their own thoughts on the page. A mix of nature exploration, creativity, and honest reflection.

Not sure which to pick?

If your child can write a few sentences on their own, start with Young Naturalist. If they're still learning their letters, Little Naturalist is the better fit — you can always go up a level later.

How it Works

- Print and cut apart each prompt card.
- Fold them up and drop them into a jar (any jar works — mason jars, an old vase, even a bowl).
- Let your child pull one whenever the mood strikes. No schedule, no pressure — just curiosity.
- If a prompt asks them to go outside, bring something back to glue or draw.
- There's no wrong answer, ever. This is a space for them to be creative, honest, and a little bit silly.

A few thoughts for grown-ups:

Some prompts are playful, some ask your child to slow down and reflect. Both matter. If a reflective prompt brings up something real, just listen — no fixing, no lecture. That's what makes the next honest answer feel safe too.



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Sample Set Edition - Little Naturalists

Print and cut apart each prompt. Fold them up and drop them into a jar. Let your child pull one whenever the mood strikes — no schedule, no pressure, just curiosity.

Nature

Go outside and look at the clouds for one minute. What shapes do you see?
Come inside and draw it.

Nature

Find something bumpy and something smooth outside. Draw both and tell me which you liked better.

Nature

Find a stick outside. Glue it in and turn it into something — a wand, a tree, a fishing pole.

Collect

Collect 3 different leaves from outside. Bring them in, place them under your paper, and rub a crayon over it so you can see their shape.

Collect

Collect a handful of grass. Glue it in and draw a little creature hiding inside it.

Collect

Find a feather, a seed, or a pinecone. Glue it in and draw what animal it came from.

Create

Build something with whatever you can find in the house. Draw what you built.

Create

Make up a new animal that doesn't exist. Draw it and tell me what it eats.

Create

Draw a map of our backyard. Where do you think there might be buried treasure?

Tell Me a Story

Draw your favorite stuffed animal going on an adventure. Tell me what happens.

Tell Me a Story

Draw a silly monster. Give it a funny name and tell me about it.

Tell Me a Story

Go find something that smells good. Draw where it came from and tell me about it.



The Prompt Jar



Sample Set Edition – Young Naturalists

Print and cut apart each prompt. Fold them up and drop them into a jar. Let your child pull one whenever the mood strikes — no schedule, no pressure, just curiosity.

Nature

Go outside and sit completely still for 5 minutes. Write down everything you noticed that you normally walk right past.

Nature

Pick one tree in your yard or neighborhood. Draw it and write about what you think its life has been like.

Nature

Write a paragraph from the point of view of something in nature — a raindrop, a honeybee, a blade of grass.

Collect

Collect 5 natural things from outside. Arrange them into a pattern or picture and draw what you made.

Collect

Find something in nature that nobody would usually notice. Draw it and write about why you think it gets overlooked.

Collect

Find the most interesting bug, bird, or creature you can. Draw it as accurately as you can and write everything you observe about it.

Create

If you could invent anything in the world, what would it be? Draw it and explain how it works.

Create

List 5 things that are hard for you. Pick the one you most want to get better at and write why.

Create

Imagine yourself at 25. Where do you live? What do you do every day? Write about a regular Tuesday.

Story Starter

Write a letter to yourself to open on your 13th birthday. What do you want to remember about right now?

Story Starter

List 5 words that describe yourself. Circle the one that fits you BEST and write a sentence about why.

Story Starter

Write about a moment you got in trouble. Did you deserve it? Write your honest opinion.