

# Forest in a Box

## Items for a box.

- Spanish moss - an epiphytic plant, meaning it gets what it needs from the and typically grows on another plant, but it not parasitic.
- Branch with liechen on it
- Rocks
- Pinecones
- Acorns
- Tree cookies/circles
- Magnolia fruit - the large fruit holds the red seeds, which fall out as the fruit dries
- Bark
- Hickory nuts
- Sweet gum balls

This box contains things you would find on a walk in the woods and is for kids to explore the different textures and patterns found in nature. You can make your own box by taking a walk.



# What to do?

## Observe

- Look at and feel the different textures or the items in the box
- Talk about what you observe.
- What are pine cone, acorns, Sweet gum balls, hickory nuts, and magnolia fruit? They are all seeds of trees.
- Have you seen the things in the box before?
- How does the Spanish moss feel?



- This pinecone and some of the hickory nuts have been eaten. By what? Squirrels
- What else in the box would squirrels eat? The acorns and seed from the magnolia
- Count the rings on the tree cookie, each ring is a year of growth.
- Compare the pine tree cookie to a bamboo cookie.
- What is bamboo, is it a tree? It is actually a grass.