***No-Tech Science for the 'Home Bound' Student…***

***"What's Green in Spring?"*** (K-2nd grade, but can be used at any age level)

***Objective and Goals:***

Get students outside to explore the world by using their senses to build their observation skills using a 'Treasure Hunt' format.

***Materials Needed:***

- Any outside setting
- (optional: A small journal and colored pencils or crayons in a variety of green shades.)

***Background Information:***

The green color in plants comes from the chlorophyll which allows the plant to collect energy from the sun. Everything needs energy for growth. The plant uses chlorophyll to make food for itself in a process called photosynthesis. The plant uses this food to grow and produce fruit/seeds for reproduction. We eat many of these fruits for food to obtain our energy. Plants also create oxygen in the process.

***Procedure:***

Take a walk outside. Explain to the student that you are on a 'treasure hunt' for the color green… in any shade; light dark, bright, yellow-green etc. If using a journal, plan to record in words or pictures the various greens you find using the pencils or crayons, and where you find it; a rock, tree, leaf or moss etc.

- How many different greens did you find?
- Why is there so much green? Look in the background provided here for answers or research it for more information. Google: *'photosynthesis' for kids*

***Extensions:***

- If you find a patch of clover, count the leaves (usually three). See if you can find a 'four leaf' clover. How many leaves do other green plants have?
- As the season progresses, look for other colors; example: brown, red, yellow, etc.
- Create a 'treasure hunt' looking for geometric shapes in nature. example: circles, triangles, squares, etc. Record what you find by drawing or making a leaf rubbing using the colors of the leaf and indicating the shape you found.

*NOTE: See our website for supportive materials https://www.athensswcd.org/*