

# Everything is planned for you!

Teacher planning page with objectives, fun facts, supply lists

**Planning Page - Pine Cones**  
Scientific Investigation

**Recommended Supplies:**

- pine cones
- pine needles
- magnifying glasses
- tweezers
- small bowl of water

**Learning Objectives:**

- The student will identify properties of an object using direct observation.
- The student will describe an object and ask questions about it.

Guiding questions (and answers) to help promote discussion

**Guiding Questions - Pine Cones**  
Scientific Investigation

**Where do pine cones come from?**

- Pine cones grow on conifer trees.
- Conifer trees are also known as 'evergreen' trees because they stay green most of the year.
- Conifer trees can live between 100-1000 years - that's a lot of pine cones!

**What is the purpose of a pine cone?**

A pine cone's purpose is to keep the seeds of the tree safe until they are ready to grow.

**Hands-on Learning**

If you live in an area with conifer trees, children have likely seen pine cones on the ground. They may not know where they come from or what their purpose is, so this center is for them to explore.

While exploring the pine cones, students will:

- explore the ways cones are different
- sort items by color
- sequence the life cycle of a pine cone
- observe the various uses of pine cones

\*\*Use as many real-life items as possible.

**Observations - Pine Cones**  
Scientific Investigation

**What do you notice about pine cones?**

The change in temperature, differences in plant growth, and animal behaviors are all indications of a change in seasons. Bring real items into the classroom to allow for closer observation.

**Learning Objectives:**

- The students will use their five senses to observe pine cones.

Teacher-Recommended Book List

**Investigation - Pine Cones**  
Scientific Investigation

**How can pine cones change shape?**

There are many different species of pine cones, but one way they are alike is the way they release their seeds.

**Learning Objectives:**

- The students will observe objects with magnifying glasses.

Step-by-step directions for each activity.

**Procedure:**

1. Print the observation recording sheet and post it in the science center.
2. If possible, go on a nature walk and collect pine cones from the trees and bring them to the classroom.
3. Display the cones at the science center.
4. Encourage students to explore the cones with magnifying glasses and tweezers.

**Book Recommendations - Pine Cones**  
Scientific Investigation







**Evergreens are Green** by Susan Canizares

Simply illustrated with supporting short sentences, this book highlights the differences between conifer trees and other trees who lose their leaves throughout the year.

**From Cone to Pine Tree** by Emma Carlson-Berne

From Cone to Pine Tree is a fantastic emergent reader book. Bright photographs are paired with simple text.

**Pine Cones Language Board**

 pine cone	 conifer tree	 squirrel
 branch	 seeds	 squirrel

Language Board with detailed pictures



# 3 Full Color Resource Posters

Vibrant colors  
to attract  
students'  
attention.



**Pine cones grow on pine trees.**

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Clear, concise sentences  
to reinforce the concept.

# STEM & Literacy

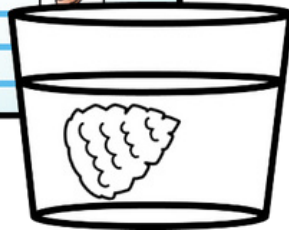
Explore cause and effect

**Fact question**  
How can pine cones change shape?

We can describe **Pine Cones**

Looks	Smells
- brown	- like the forest
- cone	

Sounds



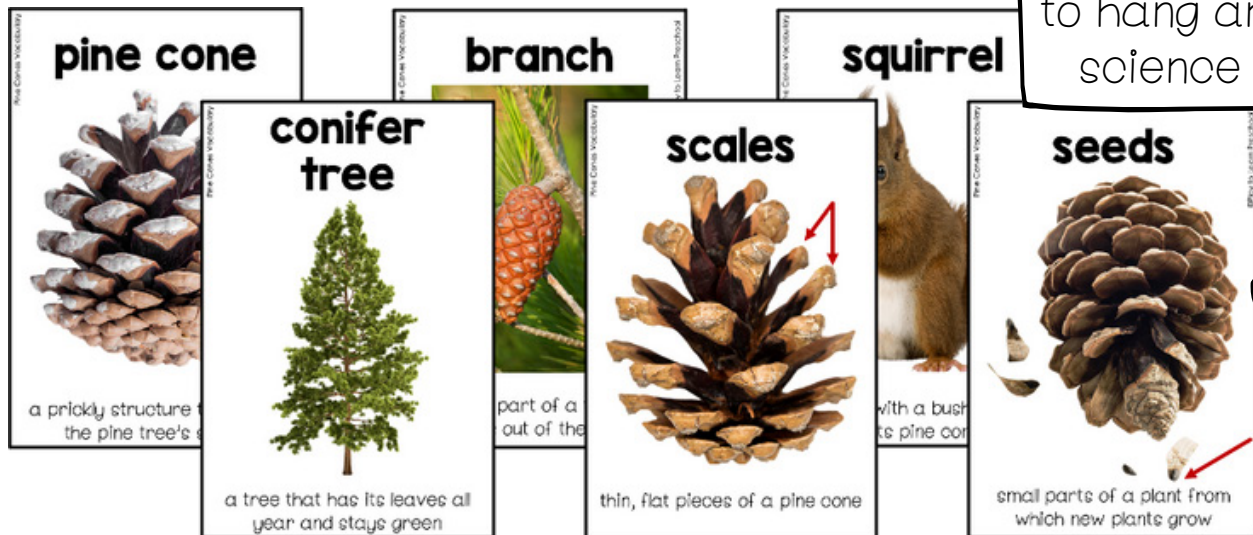
Vocabulary Tracing Cards



scales

pine cone

Vocabulary cards to hang around the science center.



- pine cone**: a prickly structure on the pine tree's
- conifer tree**: a tree that has its leaves all year and stays green
- branch**: part of a tree
- scales**: thin, flat pieces of a pine cone
- squirrel**: with a bushy tail
- seeds**: small parts of a plant from which new plants grow



# Student Mini-Books

Practice facts learned in class.

Black & White  
2 copies/page

## All About **Pine Cones**



Name \_\_\_\_\_



1 Pine cones grow on pine trees.

2 A pine cone has scales

3 A pine cone has seeds inside.

4 A pine cone closes when wet.

5 A pine cone opens when dry

6 A pine cone's seeds have wings.

7 Squirrels like to eat pine cones.

8 Pine cones are amazing!

Send home for  
additional practice

# Looking for More Preschool Resources?

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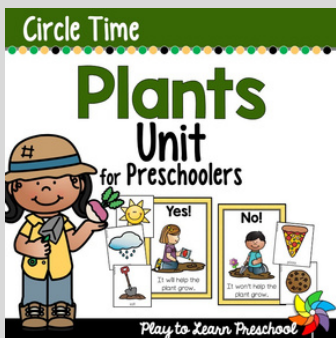
# Have fun playing and learning with your students!



## Meet Jamie

Jamie is the founder and C.E.O of Play to Learn Preschool. She has her bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education and a master's degree in reading education. She has taught in both public and private schools and works tirelessly to create meaningful and delightful preschool experiences for both her virtual and in-person preschool students.

### Additional Resources:



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