



STG Art Sessions

La Mariposa Series: Nature Walk

Created by STG Teaching Artist: Brodrick Santeze Ryans

This curriculum is tied to an interactive lesson plan:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TWEIvtiAfuU>

Description: Participants will use the book LA MARIPOSA by Francisco Jiménez as inspiration to go on a nature walk/adventure by exploring the outdoors. Participants can choose to observe nature from inside, such as through making observations from a window or doorway, or they can choose to explore outside in a backyard, park, or local areas around their neighborhoods. Participants then have the option to either write or draw about some of the things they discover and see from their nature walk and can even take safe items from the ground such as fallen pinecones, leaves, twigs, etc. to use as a craft in their drawing or artwork inspired from the adventure.

Goal: Participants will make connections between the environmental elements in La Mariposa and their own immediate surroundings through sensory observations such as the following: what do you hear, see, feel, touch, smell?

Grade(s) /Age(s): 4-10+, family friendly	Video Length: 11 minutes
Materials: Notebook, writing/drawing utensils, craft supplies (optional)	Space needs: Space to explore for a nature walk/observation. Can be from inside a home/building by observing outside windows or doorways or can go out in a safe, designated place with an adult

INTRODUCTION/REVIEW

During the first video, the instructor will introduce themselves and give the students a small review of *La Mariposa*. During this segment, the instructor will mention environmental elements of the book that they like and maybe something that they're hoping to find in their spaces. The instructor will also explain the nature walk activity. Imagine the discoveries that Francisco made about his environment on his way to school every day. (Examples: Butterfly, caterpillar, the weather, farming, the school.)

ACTIVITY: NATURE WALK

The instructor will be walking students through a couple of different environments and discussing the things that they find. (Note: These discoveries should not be limited to just plants and animals. They can be buildings, bridges, graffiti walls, literally whatever is near or within your space.) The instructor will discuss the five senses when talking about these discoveries, and how do these discoveries make you feel? Try to add a seasonal component to this as well.

Participants can use the instructor's video as the foundation for environmental exploration and/or go on their own nature walk and adventure if available and accessible to them.

If participants go on a nature walk, try to find different nature items that are safe to gather and take back to use as a craft. Keep in mind ways to show the environment love and kindness by being gentle and only taking items such as fallen pinecones, leaves from the ground (not removing flowers or leaves that are still attached to a tree or living plant), small rocks or pebbles, etc.

ACTIVITY: CRAFT

After observing nature, participants can then journal, write, draw, or craft about their observations. The instructor shows an example of the craft art he made from their nature walk adventure using some found objects and gluing them on the paper as part of the art.

CLOSING

During this video, the instructor will discuss what they loved most about the nature walk and things that they found most interesting. The instructor will also ask students to share what they discovered via social media or by sharing a small video with STG. During this video, the instructor should also share the drawings or writing items that they created from their nature walk.

SHARE YOUR FEEDBACK

We appreciate and welcome your feedback! You can share your experience from any of our pre-recorded video sessions with us in this anonymous survey - <https://www.tfaforms.com/4765455>

SHARE A PHOTO/VIDEO

If you tried any of these activities, please feel free to share a photo or a short video! We'd love to share what people are doing via our socials!

- o Instagram @stgpresents
- o STG facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/stgeducation>

ABOUT THE TEACHING ARTIST

Brodrick Santeze Ryans



Brodrick Santeze Ryans (He, Him) is currently serving as the Education Coordinator at Seattle Children's Theatre, supporting the Drama School, Community Engagement and Arts Based Learning Programs. Brodrick is a current 2020 TYA/USA Emerging Leader in TYA Fellowship. He is an arts leader, actor, teaching artists and podcast founder and host. His podcasts TIMEOUT w/ Brodrick is dedicated to bridging the gap between BIPOC culture, creative art forms and educational theatre. Brodrick strongly believes in the work of arts education. "It is through arts education that we can inspire, direct and implement creative change in young people and how they move through society. It is our job as artists and educators to help young people tell their stories." Brodrick's background as a performer helped him to morph into the position of teaching artists and coordinator. He has worked as the Operations Coordinator for the School of Social Work at The University of Alabama, a tour director and actor for

Missoula Children's Theatre, and as a professional freelance actor and artist. Brodrick holds a degree in Behavioral Sciences and Humanities from The University of Mobile, where he took classes focusing on Music, Theatre, Education, and Communications. Some of his past credits include; *The Wiz*, *Dreamgirls*, *Disney's Newsies*, *Footloose*, *Ragtime*, Carmen Ghia in *The Producers*, Major Metcalf in *Mousetrap* and Sweaty Eddie in *Sister Act*. "Our future success is dependent on the work that we are doing with young people now."

Instagram:

@i3rodier – Personal

@timeoutbrodrick – Podcast

@blacksouthernvegan – Foodie

Podcast Links: [Apple Podcasts](#) | [Spotify](#) | [SoundCloud](#)