Thinking About

Last Saturday, I had the opportunity to spend some time with two of my student teachers—each seven-year-old boys. The rest of the morning, planned in advance, was scrubbed in favor of responding to a new opportunity that had just come across my desk. The opportunity was to teach a group of children about the impact that their actions can have on their environment. The group consisted of 15 children, all of varied ages, some of whom had never been to a nature walk before. They were eager to learn and ready to take on the challenge.

We began by discussing the importance of protecting our environment. We talked about how pollution affects our air, water, and soil, and how it can harm the animals and plants that live in our world. We brainstormed ways that we could help to reduce pollution, such as recycling, conserving water, and using public transportation. The children were very engaged and eager to share their ideas.

The next activity involved collecting trash from a nearby park. We divided the group into teams of three and gave each team a trash can. The children were thrilled to have the opportunity to pick up trash and help to keep our environment clean. We collected a surprising amount of trash, including plastic bags, cans, bottles, and even some broken glass. The children were very proud of themselves for all their hard work.

After the trash collection activity, we returned to our classroom to discuss the materials we had collected. We talked about the types of materials we had found and shared some facts about each type. We also discussed the importance of recycling and how it helps to reduce the amount of trash that ends up in landfills. The children were very interested in learning more about recycling and how they can help to make a difference in their community.

We ended the day by creating a mural using the materials we had collected. The children were given the opportunity to decorate a large piece of paper with all the materials they had collected. It was a beautiful sight to see the children working together to create something special. The mural will be displayed in our school's hallway as a reminder of the importance of protecting our environment.

Overall, it was a very educational and fun day for the children. They were able to learn about the importance of taking care of our environment and how they can make a difference in their community. We hope to have many more opportunities like this in the future to continue teaching our students about the importance of protecting our planet.