

WINTER WONDERLAND: NATURE PLAY

Evergreen neighborhood exploration

Pine trees may go unnoticed in the midst of summer, but in the winter evergreen plants stand out as some of the lone greenery of the season. Evergreens are plants that don't drop their foliage in the winter months, like pine trees and boxwood shrubs. Setting out on an adventure to find the evergreens in your neighborhood is a great way to engage with nature while it's cold outside. When you and your young ones find plants that are still green, here's some questions to ask about the plants you find:

- Look and see whether the plants have needles or leaves (Conifers will have needles, while evergreen shrubs like boxwoods have leaves)
- What kind of seeds do they have? Can you see anything that could be a seed on the ground nearby? (Check the plant for things like cones or berries)
- Does this plant look like the other evergreens you've found? Does it have a different or similar feel? Smell? Look?

