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Science through asking Why

A great way to learn about science is to observe something, and then ask why several times, like this:

What: You see a big spider web in your front yard
Why 1? A spider built the spider web
Why 2? A spider uses the web to catch bugs
Why 3? Spiders eat bugs
Why 4? There are lots of bugs to eat
Why 5? Bugs lay lots and lots of eggs



Here's another example.



What: Your parents turn on the shower and hot water comes out
Why 1? There is hot water in the pipes
Why 2? The water heater heated the water
Why 3? Electric heaters are inside the water heater
Why 4? Electricity goes to the water heater
Why 5? Electricity is made at hydro-electric dams

By simply asking why several times, it's amazing what you can discover.

Now, you try it. See if you can answer the five why's below:

What: You are outside at recess and it starts raining

Why 1? _____

Why 2? _____

Why 3? _____

Why 4? _____

Why 5? _____



For a possible answer, see www.FreeRCA.com and click on the "For Kids" tab.

For educators: This is a prototype for possible use in science, technology, engineering & math curriculums. Comments invited. This particular exercise was designed for a 1-2nd grade range. Additional examples will be posted at the web site listed above. Contact us for details. Larry.Reising@FreeRCA.com

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