

Spiral & Whorl Hunt



Concept: *Spirals & whorls in nature (shells, flowers, fingerprints, storms)*

Materials:

- *Printed “Spiral & Whorl Hunt” checklist*
- *Pencils or crayons*
- *Optional: phone/tablet for photos*

Steps:

1. *As a family, quickly review what a spiral/whorl is (shells, sunflower centers, fingerprints, storms).*
2. *Give each child a checklist with simple items: “Something with a spiral,” “Something that curls,” (we have included one here as well)*
3. *Go for a walk indoors or outdoors (yard, park, neighborhood) and search for spirals and whorls in real life.*
4. *Each time someone finds one, pause and:*
5. *Circle or check it off on the sheet.*
6. *Either draw a quick sketch or take a photo.*
7. *After 15–30 minutes, go back home and spread out the drawings/photos.*
8. *As a group, talk through: Where did we see spirals? Were they in living things? Weather? Objects people made?*
9. *End by having kids choose their favorite spiral/whorl and write one sentence: “I found this pattern in ____.”*

Spiral & Whorl Hunt Checklist



Look for spirals in...

- ☐ A snail shell
- ☐ A sunflower center (seed spiral)
- ☐ A pinecone
- ☐ A swirling staircase
- ☐ A twirling vine
- ☐ A rolled-up fern leaf
- ☐ A twisted rope or coiled hose
- ☐ A fingerprint pattern
- ☐ A swirling cloud or storm photo
- ☐ A spiral notebook binding

Look for whorls in...

- ☐ Tree rings (circles & whorls)
- ☐ The center of a rose or daisy
- ☐ Water swirling down a drain
- ☐ The pattern on a seashell
- ☐ Bark patterns on certain trees
- ☐ A whorl in someone's hair
- ☐ The inside of sliced fruits (kiwi, apple core, cabbage)
- ☐ Mini whirlpools in streams or puddles
- ☐ Sand or wind patterns that curve
- ☐ A coiled ribbon or yarn bundle