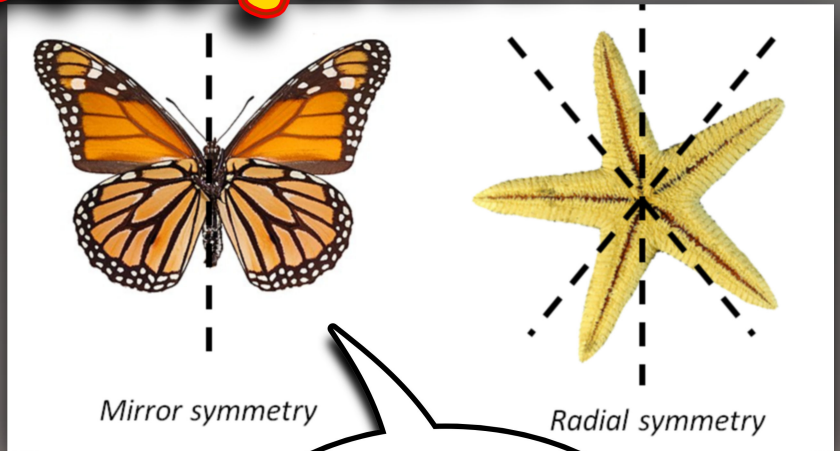




Symmetry is all around us!



What you need:

CAMERA
PRINTER
MASKING/DUCT TAPE
SMALL MIRROR WITH NO FRAME

What to do:

IF A SAFETY MIRROR CANNOT BE FOUND, USE THE TAPE TO COVER THREE SIDES OF THE MIRROR FOR SAFETY PURPOSES. INSTRUCT THE LEARNER ON THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF SYMMETRY IN NATURE (SEE THE EXPLANATION AND THE PICTURE ABOVE). TAKE A WALK OUTSIDE AND TAKE PICTURES OF VARIOUS ITEMS SUCH AS LEAVES, STICKS, PINECONES, ETC. PRINT OFF THE PICTURES AND PLACE THE UN-TAPED SIDE OF THE MIRROR ON TOP OF THE IMAGES. YOU ARE TRYING TO FIND A LINE OF SYMMETRY ALONG EACH ITEM. THESE LINES ARE REPRESENTED AS THE DASHES IN THE PICTURES ABOVE.

IT'S ALL A MATTER OF **PERSPECTIVE!**

What's going on?

REFLECTIVE (MIRROR) SYMMETRY IS A TYPE OF SYMMETRY WHERE ONE-HALF OF THE OBJECT REFLECTS THE OTHER HALF OF THE OBJECT. A SHAPE HAS ROTATIONAL (RADIAL) SYMMETRY WHEN THE IMAGE IN THE MIRROR STILL LOOKS THE SAME AFTER A PARTIAL TURN OF THE PRINTED IMAGE. PINECONES ARE A GOOD EXAMPLE OF ROTATIONAL SYMMETRY WHILE LEAVES TYPICALLY HAVE REFLECTIVE SYMMETRY.