Art Lens Nature Walk
2nd—12th grades

Concepts
- Each art form has a different way of looking at the world.
- In the arts there are no wrong answers.
- There are many different ways to experience nature.

Objectives
- Students will practice making observations.
- Students will practice public speaking skills by reading their writing out loud.
- Students will identify the four major art forms and their lenses.
- Students will practice empathy for different viewpoints.

Outline

1. In the classroom discuss the four different major art forms: Visual Arts, Theater, Dance, Music and how the artists in each of these disciplines would experience the classroom.

Example: I am a musician. What would I pay attention to in this room?

Responses can include such things as background noise, surfaces that could be used to make noise, acoustics, pitch, volume levels, etc.

Continue with each discipline...
2. Take the students outside for a walk in a natural setting and have them observe their surroundings using the same “arts lenses” that were discussed in the classroom. Go through each of the arts disciplines asking the students to use each lens to make silent observations. They can be walking as they observe silently or have the students stop in one area to observe.

3. Pick a spot that is comfortable and have the students stop to verbally share their observations.

4. Have the students write in their journals, reflecting on their observations, using one of the following:
   - A. Three sentences
   - B. A haiku poem
   - C. A drawing

5. Have some or all of the students take turns sharing their writing or drawing.