


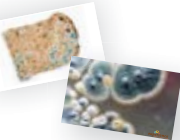










Explore the Rainforest

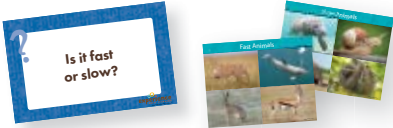




WEEK 1 FOREST FLOOR LAYER

STEAM STATION	YOUR SUPPLIES	BIG QUESTION AND INSPIRATION PHOTOS	TEACHER TIPS
<p>LESSON 1 Forest Floor <small>SCI 4 Technology</small></p>	<p>Squirt bottle Bin of dirt Rocks Leaves Pipecleaners Sticks</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">What could you find on the forest floor?</p> 	<p>Children experiment with wetting the dirt and arranging the rocks and sticks. What creatures can they create with the pipecleaners? To see more about the forest floor, watch this video: https://youtu.be/A4Ysook9Vj8.</p>
<p>LESSON 2 Investigating Root Vegetables <small>SCI 4 Technology</small></p>	<p>Root vegetables Clipboard Pencil Ruler Potato peeler Paper</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">How are roots similar and different?</p> 	<p>Experiment with a potato peeler on all the vegetables. Invite children to describe what they discover about the roots. Create a chart to note the differences/similarities in shape, size, color and texture.</p>
<p>LESSON 3 Floating Leaves <small>SCI 1 Investigation & Inquiry</small></p>	<p>Leaves Glass bowl Rocks & beads</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">How much can a leaf hold until it sinks in water?</p> 	<p>Set out a bowl of water and leaves of different sizes and shapes. Experiment by adding rocks, beads or manipulatives to the floating leaves. Which leaves remain floating? What makes them sink?</p>
<p>LESSON 4 Growing Mold <small>SCI 1 Investigation & Inquiry</small></p>	<p>Bread Clear zip bags Tape</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">What does mold need to grow?</p> 	<p>Set out three slices of bread. Invite children to lightly sprinkle water on one, toast another and leave the third as is. Place each into a clear zip bag and tape to a window. Document how each piece of bread changes throughout the week.</p>
<p>LESSON 5 Leafcutter Nest <small>SCI 4 Technology</small></p>	<p>Scissors Leaves Dirt</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">What do leafcutter ants do with leaves?</p> 	<p>Set out leaves and a pair of scissors for children to cut up and use to build an ant home. For more information about leaf ants, watch this video with your children: https://youtu.be/-6oKJ5FGk24.</p>






WEEK 2 UNDERSTORY LAYER

<p>LESSON 6 Vine Swing <small>SCI 4 Technology</small></p>	<p>Yarn Clear zip bag Rocks</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">How do vines swing with different amounts of weight?</p> 	<p>Create a pendulum. Tie a long piece of yarn onto a wall and tie the other end onto a bag. Experiment by putting different amount of rocks or weights in the bag and swinging the rope vine. How does it swing differently?</p>
<p>LESSON 7 Dissecting Flowers <small>SCI 2 Natural & Earth Science</small></p>	<p>Flowers Tweezers Magnifying glass Paper</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">What are the parts of a flower?</p> 	<p>Set a few different types of real flowers on a tray. Children use tweezers to pull the flower apart and look at the petals, stamen, seeds and leaves. Explore pressing the flower parts on the paper. Does it make color marks?</p>
<p>LESSON 8 Sticky Experiment <small>SCI 4 Technology</small></p>	<p>3-4 different types of tape (masking, clear, duct) Variety of objects: rock, blocks, toys, markers</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">What can you pick up with tape?</p> 	<p>Set out a variety of objects (rock, block, toy animal, markers). Children experiment with the tape to see which tape can hold the different objects. What happens if you shake the tape with the object on it?</p>
<p>LESSON 9 Weighing Coffee <small>SCI 4 Technology</small></p>	<p>Balance scale Coffee beans Various manipulatives Paper Pencil</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">How many coffee beans do different objects weigh?</p> 	<p>Set out a scale and invite a child to put one manipulative/object on one side, then add coffee beans on the other side until they balance. Write the number of beans that equals the weight of the opposing object.</p>
<p>LESSON 10 Pick & Find Camouflage <small>SCI 2 Natural & Earth Science</small></p>	<p>Tweezers Green and brown beads Dirt and leaves Bowl Bin</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">How do creatures hide by using camouflage?</p> 	<p>Mix together dirt, leaves and beads in a bin. Pretend to be a bird on a hunt for bugs. Pick out only the brown and green bugs (beads) and put them in a bowl.</p>

WEEK 3 CANOPY LAYER

STEAM STATION	YOUR SUPPLIES	BIG QUESTION AND INSPIRATION PHOTOS	TEACHER TIPS
LESSON 11 Fast vs. Slow <small>SCI 2 Natural & Earth Science</small>	Sensory Slime (recipe: https://bit.ly/3gOoKYk) Animal cards		Make slime mixtures with the same ingredients but different amounts. Why is one mixture thinner and the other is thicker? Play with slime. Supervise to make sure children don't eat the slime.
LESSON 12 Squeeze the Prey <small>SCI 4 Technology</small>	Clear zip bags Playdough Cotton balls Rocks Water or gel		Fill bags with cotton balls, playdough, water or gel. Securely seal them. If you were a snake, which bag would you want to squeeze, then eat? For more information, watch this video: https://youtu.be/BQ7QfUHVkU .
LESSON 13 Frog Life Cycle <small>SCI 4 Technology</small>	Frog Life Cycle Dough Mats Playdough Wiggle eyes		Set out the playdough and wiggle eyes beside the dough mats. Children use the dough to build frogs at each stage on the mat. To learn more about the life cycle of the frog, watch this video: https://youtu.be/AMs3waaW75g .
LESSON 14 Coconut Investigation <small>SCI 1 Investigation & Inquiry</small>	Coconut Hammer Screwdriver		Take turns shaking the coconut and guessing what is inside. Make a hole in the coconut and pour the liquid out. Give each child a taste of the coconut water. Break open the coconut and give each child a piece of coconut to taste.
LESSON 15 Feather Investigation <small>SCI 1 Investigation & Inquiry</small>	Feathers Bowl of water Magnifying glass Clipboards Paper		Experiment with dropping dry feathers and watching them float to the ground. Then dip the feathers in a bowl of water and drop them again. How do feathers change when wet? Watch this video to see a beautiful parrot fly: https://youtu.be/fvmYUmljGOE .

WEEK 4 EMERGENT LAYER

LESSON 16 Symmetrical Block Building <small>SCI 3 Physical Science</small>	Pattern blocks Mirror Paper Marker		Draw a line down the middle of a paper. Use pattern blocks to make a design on one side of the paper. Try to make the symmetrical design on the other side. Hold up a mirror on the line to see the symmetrical design.
LESSON 17 Pouring Water Down a String <small>SCI 1 Investigation & Inquiry</small>	Measuring cup (with spout) Yarn Cup Water Paper clip		Clip one end of wet yarn to the edge of a cup. Hold the other end inside the spout of the measuring cup. Lift the measuring cup, pull the yarn taut, then pour the water slowly down the yarn into the cup. Watch this demo: https://bit.ly/34ekNZt .
LESSON 18 Nest Building <small>SCI 2 Natural & Earth Science</small>	Sticks Leaves		Set out the sticks and leaves for children to build nests. What different shapes or different nest designs can the child build?
LESSON 19 Fruit Seed Investigation <small>SCI 4 Technology</small>	Fresh fruit Clipboards Tweezers Tray		Place slices of tropical fruit and tweezers on a tray. Children compare sizes, colors and shapes of the fruit and seeds. Watch the first three minutes of this video: https://youtu.be/6HngwHe3QCA .
LESSON 20 Loom Weaving <small>SCI 4 Technology</small>	Cardboard box or empty wooden frame Yarn Fabric scraps		Set out a child-friendly loom or make a homemade loom by punching holes along two sides of the box top. Then tie yarn through the holes. Children weave fabric strips in and out of the yarn.

Set-Up Directions

These open-ended STEAM stations invite children to investigate, problem-solve and create.

- Hang the Big Question and Inspiration Photos on the wall next to the place you set up the investigation.
- If desired, use labels to identify and organize materials children will use (and clean up) as they explore STEAM stations.

ROTATING YOUR STATIONS

- Introduce one new STEAM station daily. Leave that station set up all week. By the end of the week, children will have five stations to explore.



A master set of supply labels for STEAM and your environment, including blank labels for you to use with miscellaneous supplies, can now be found on Member Resources.

STEAM
STATIONS

STEAM stations integrate perfectly with the monthly Experience Preschool Curriculum kits for a comprehensive research-based early learning system. Learn more and start your research-based curriculum today.

[ExperienceCurriculum.com](https://www.experiencecurriculum.com)




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**What could
you find on
the forest floor?**



**How are
roots similar
and different?**



**How much
can a leaf hold
until it sinks
in water?**



**What does mold
need to grow?**



**What do
leafcutter ants
do with leaves?**



**How do vines
swing with
different amounts
of weight?**



**What are the
parts of a flower?**



**What can you
pick up with tape?**



How many coffee beans do different objects weigh?



How do creatures hide by using camouflage?



**Is it fast
or slow?**



**How do snakes
catch their prey?**



**What is the frog's
life cycle?**



**What is inside
a coconut?**



**How do
birds use
their feathers?**



**How can you
make symmetrical
designs?**



**How does
water drip down
branches?**



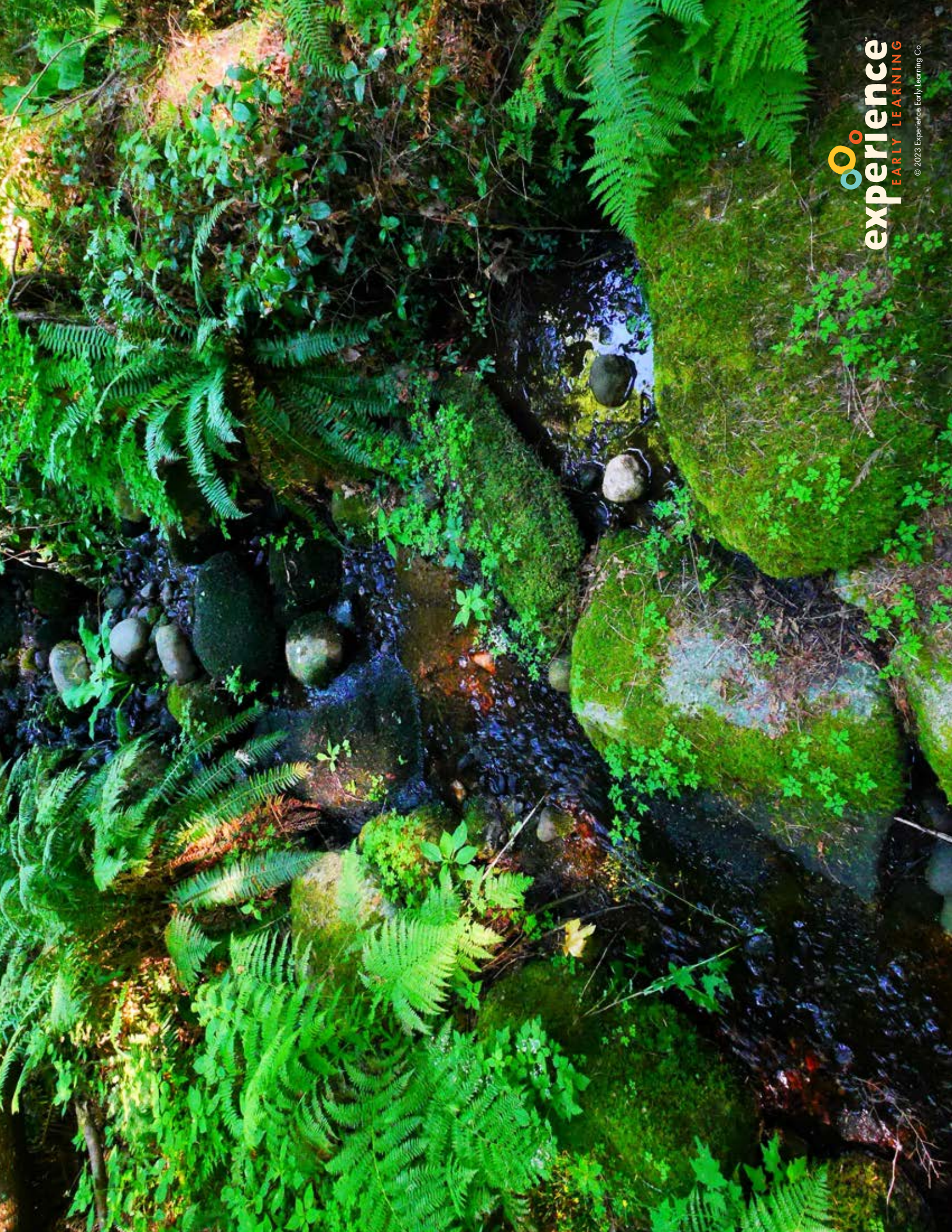
**What type of nest
can you build?**



**How are fruit
seeds similar
and different?**



**What designs
can you weave?**

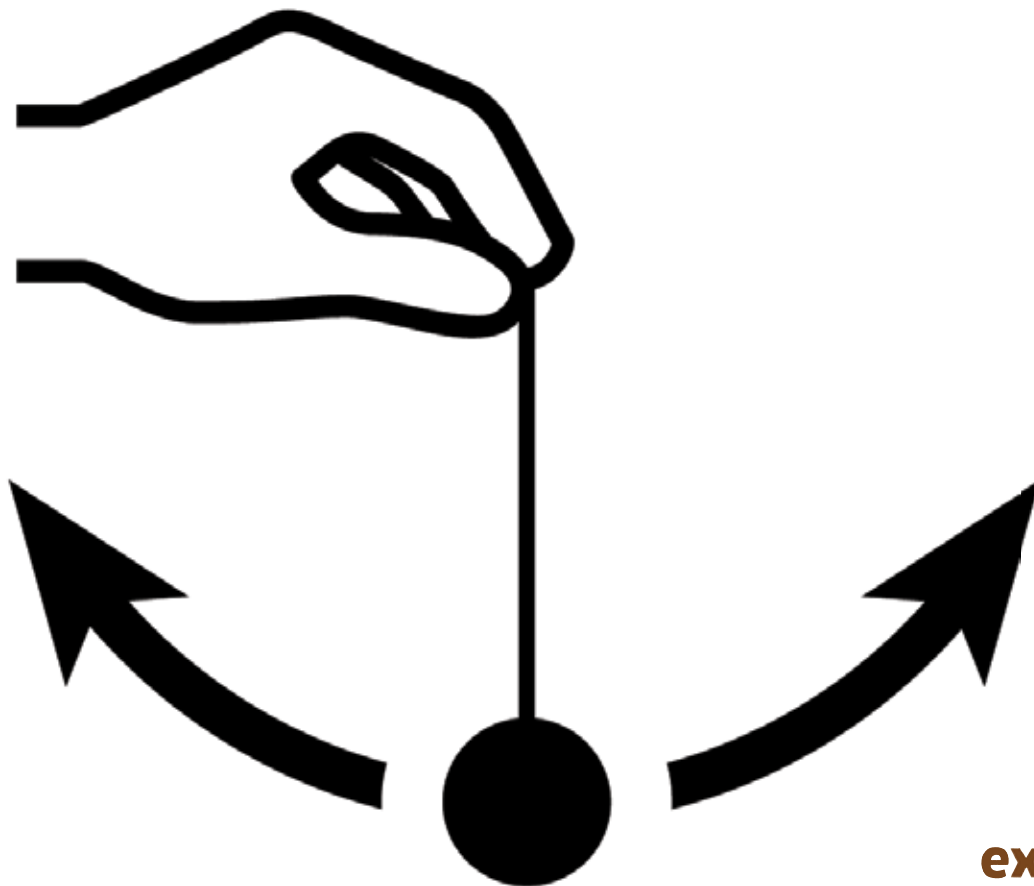




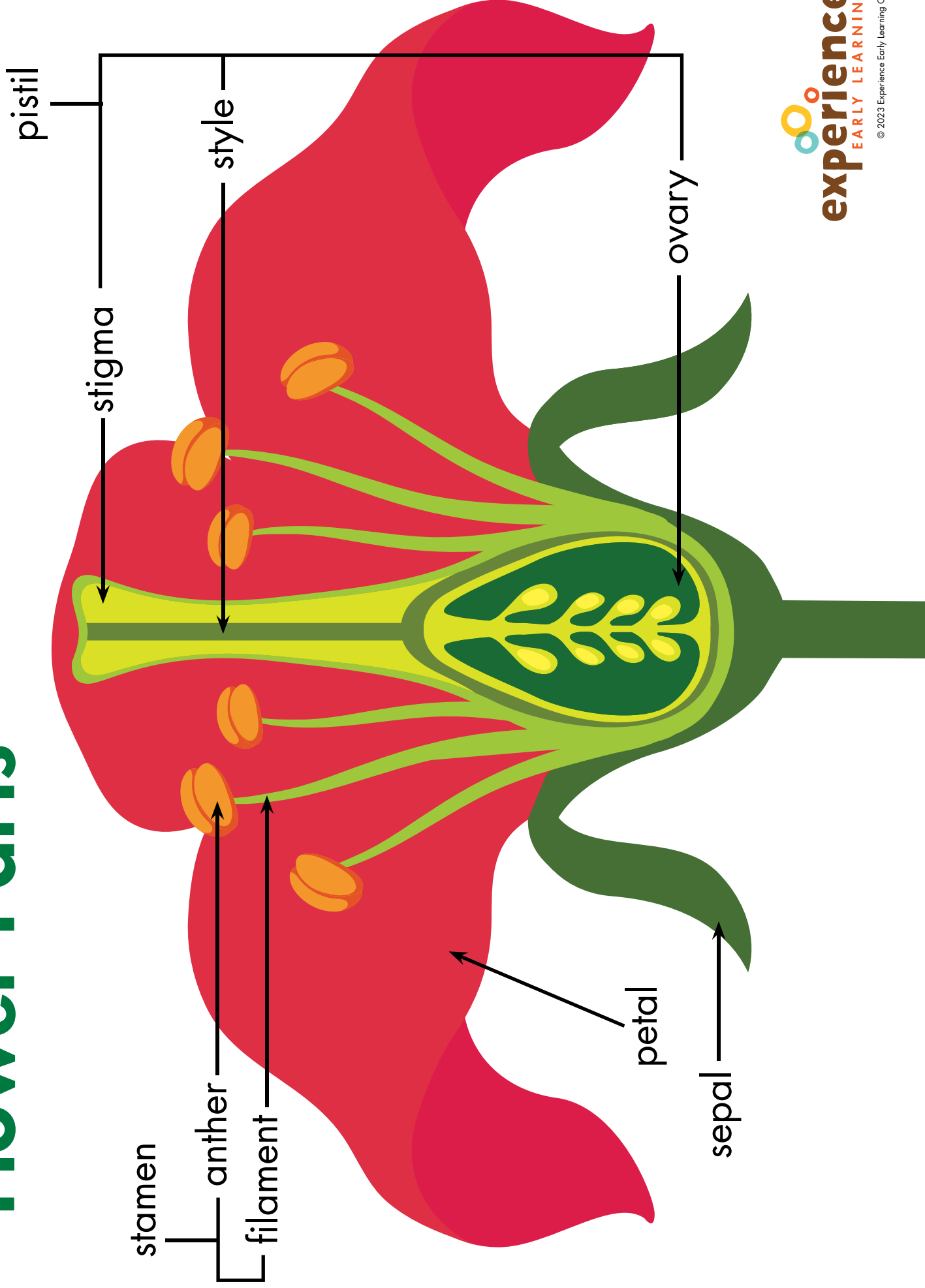




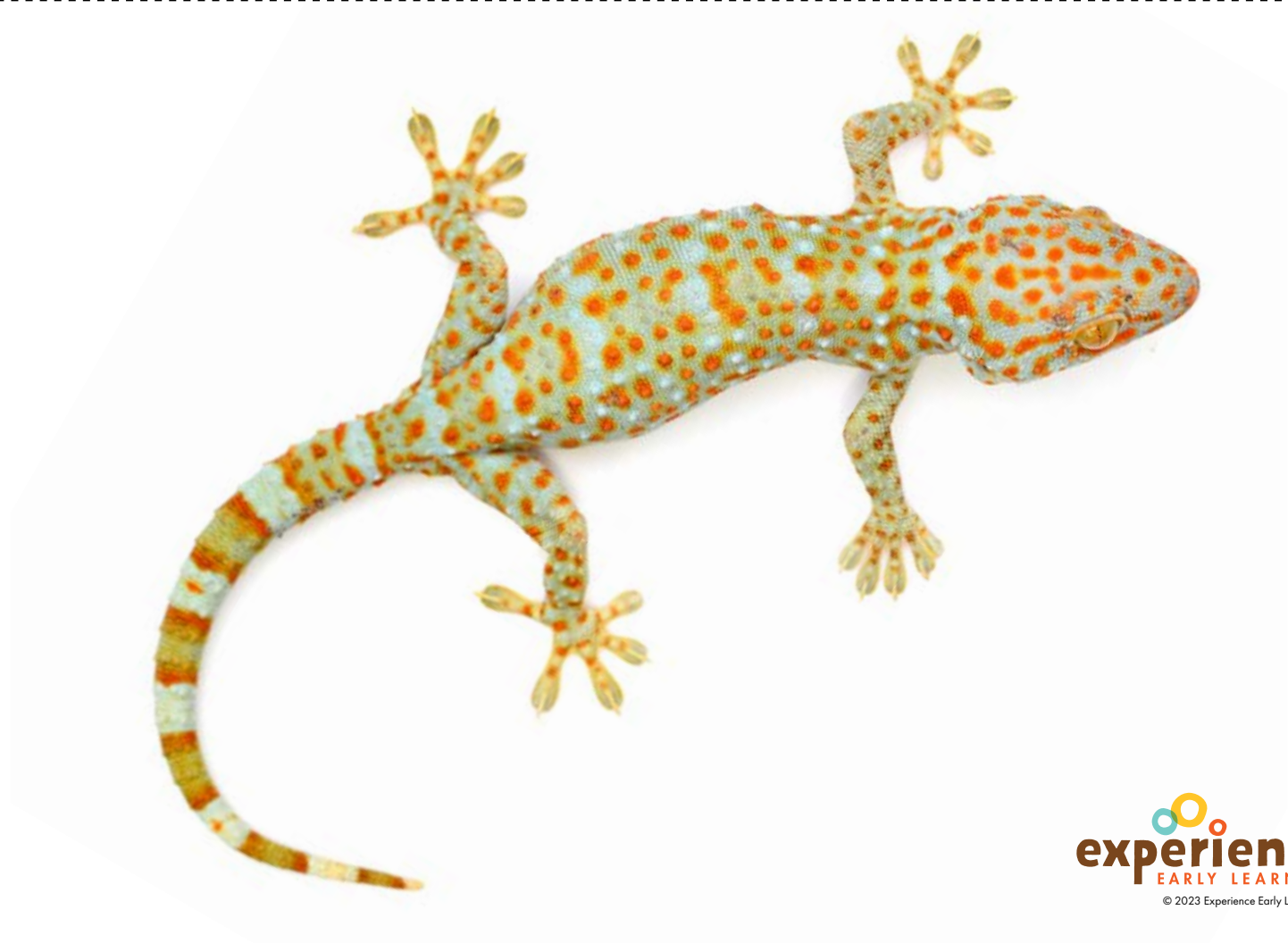




Flower Parts











Coffee Bean Weight Chart

Object	# of Beans






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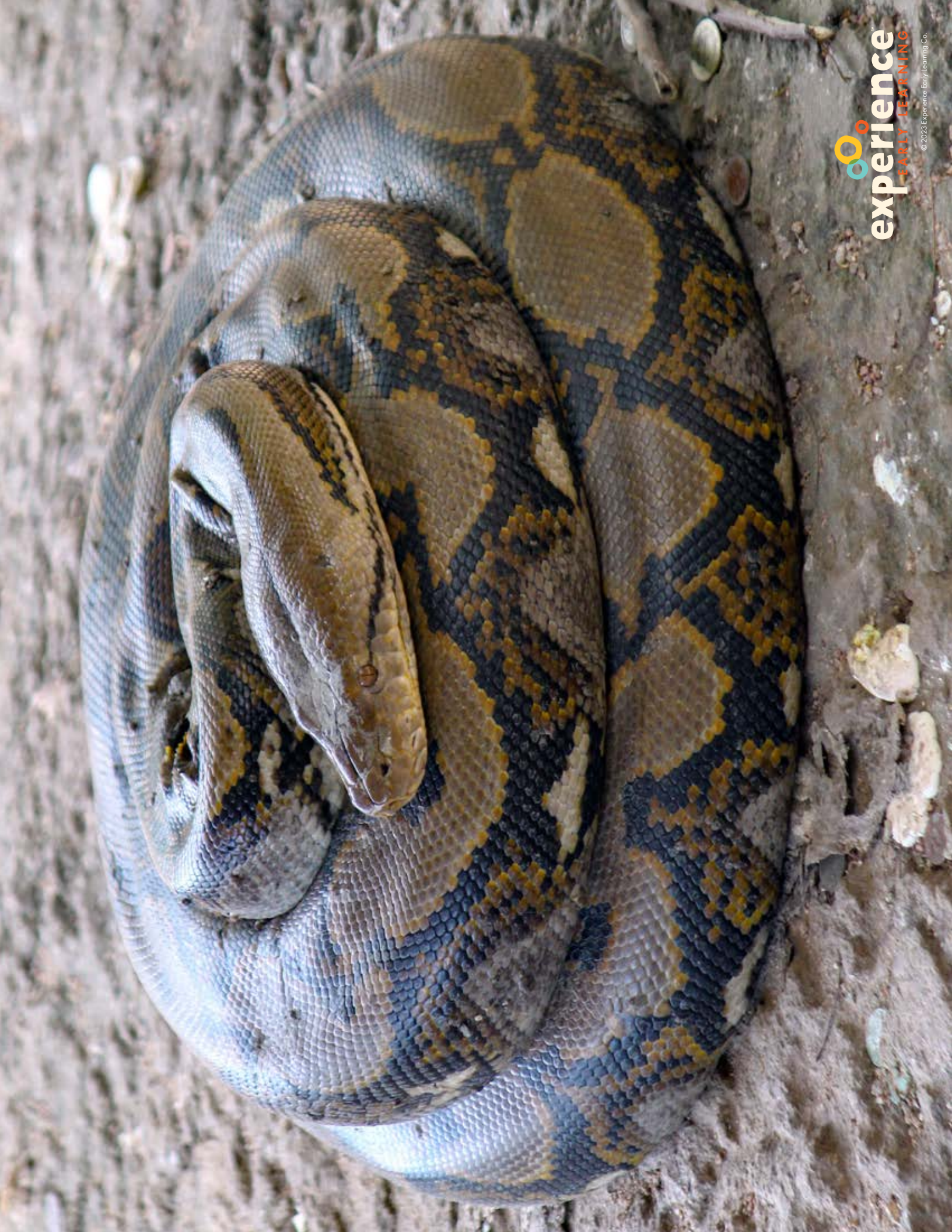

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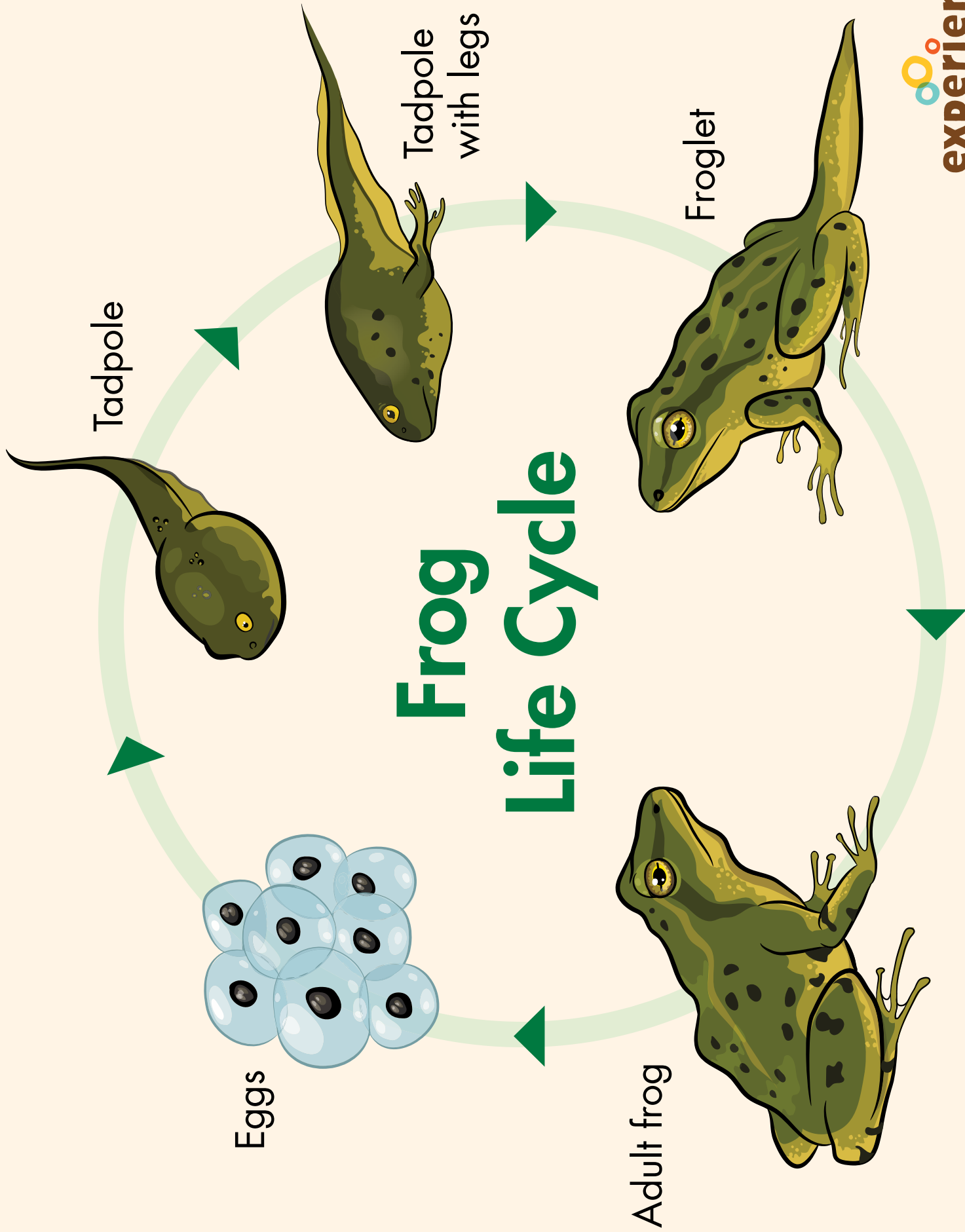
Slow Animals



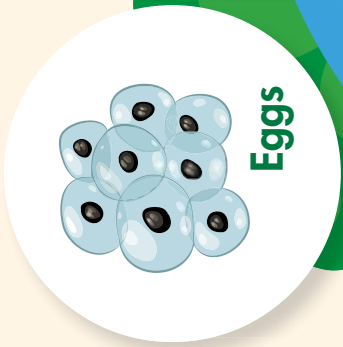
Fast Animals



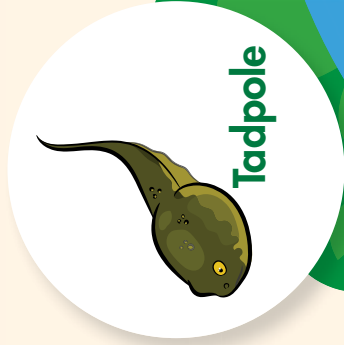




Can you make 8 eggs in the pond?



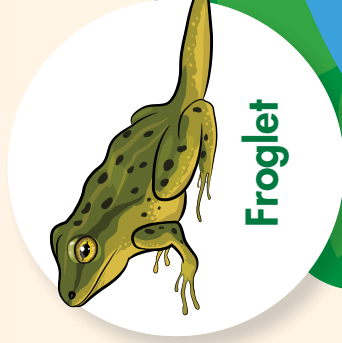
Can you make 6 tadpoles in the pond?



Can you make 4 tadpoles with legs?



Can you make 2 froglets?



Froglet



Can you make 1 frog in the pond?



Adult frog







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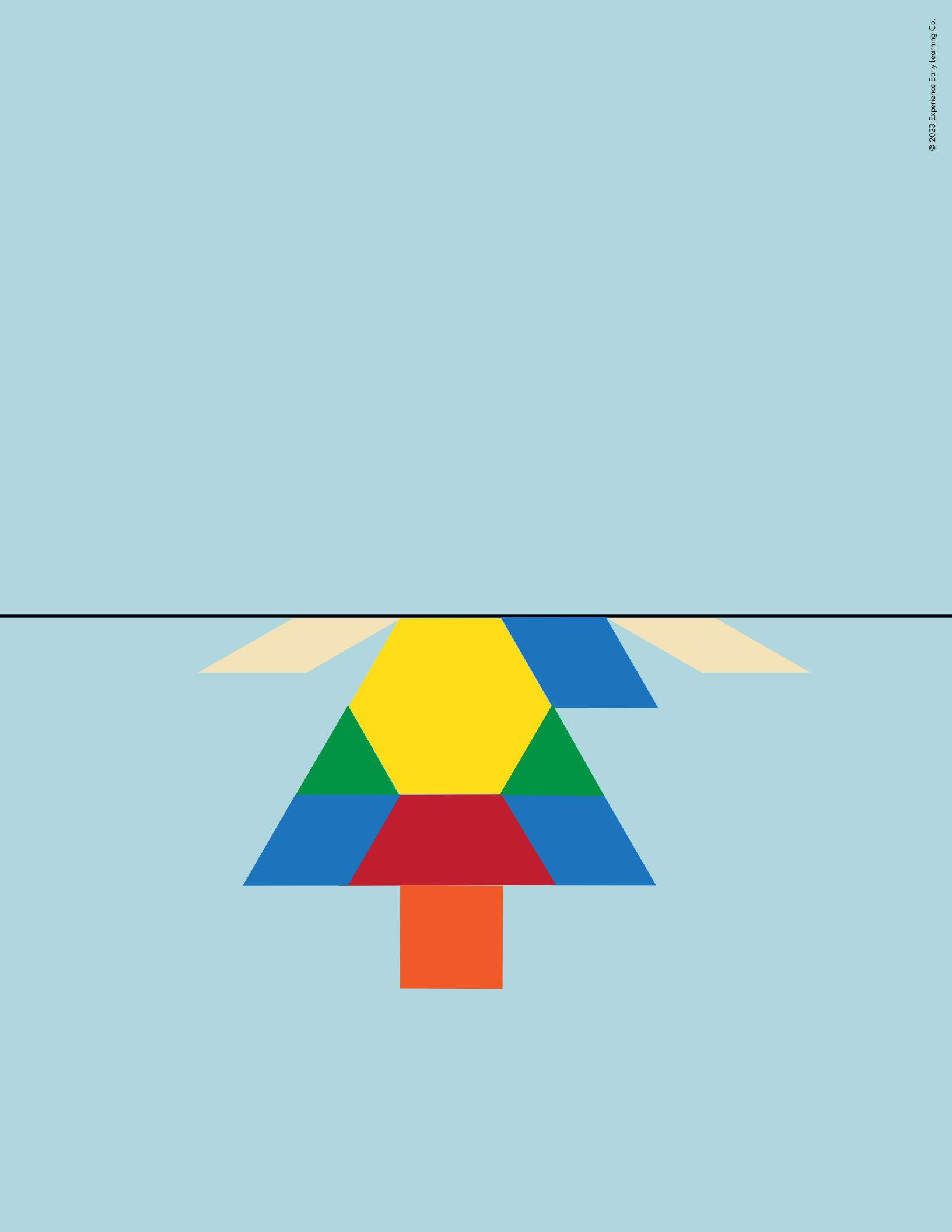

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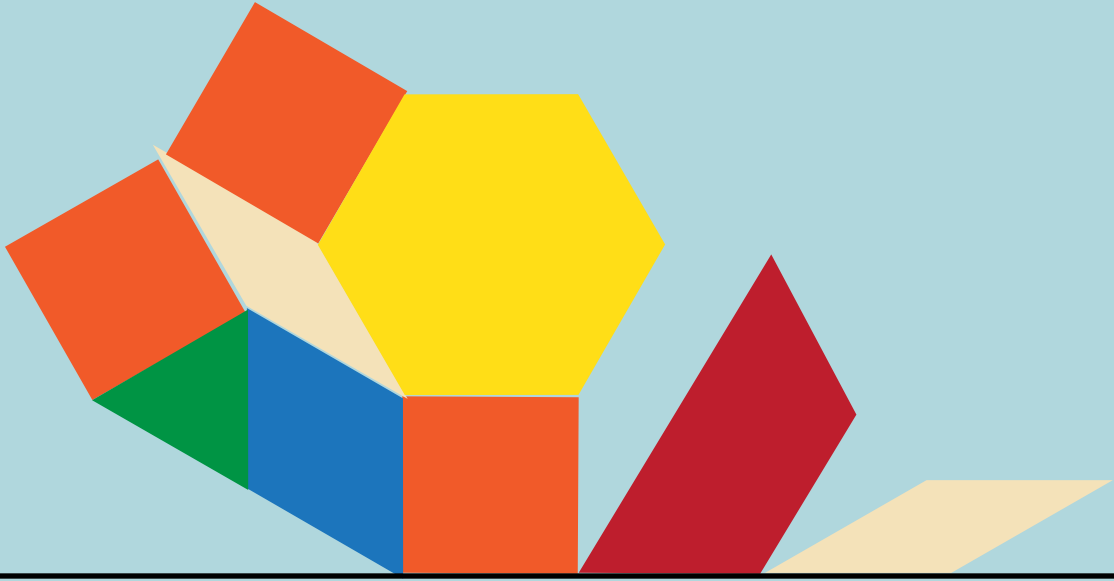



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