

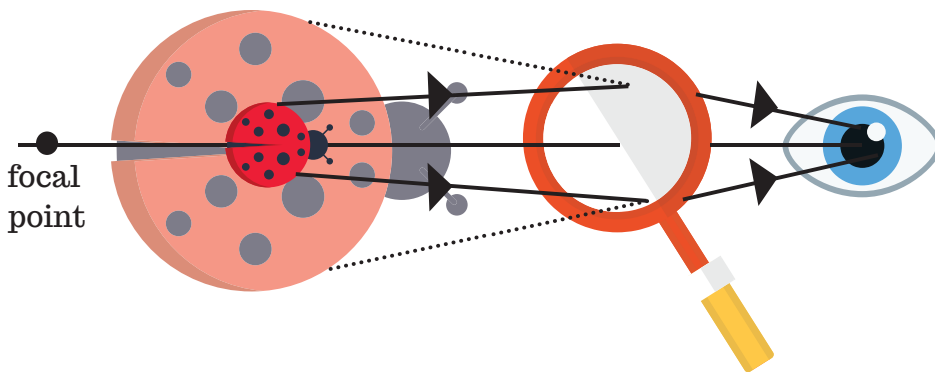
How it works

- A magnifying glass is a convex lens, this means it curves outward like the bottom of a spoon or the top to a snow globe.
- It makes things look bigger because the light bends, or refracts, as it passes through the lens
- The convex shape of the of the lens causes the light rays to come together, or converge, as shown in the diagram below



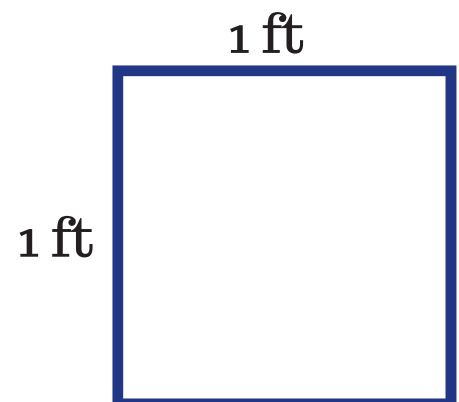
Use the big lens on your magnifying glass to see objects to **3x** their normal size!

Use the little lens on your magnifying glass to see objects to **6x** their normal size!



How to use it for your own nature study

Use string to create a 1 ft x 1 ft square anywhere on the ground. This is called a quadrat, and scientists use them to conduct nature surveys. Conduct your own nature survey by using your magnifying glass to observe everything you can within that 1 ft square. Bring a pencil and paper. Write down all the non-living (abiotic) things you see. Then observe and record all the living (biotic) things you see. Focus on the details you cannot typically see without the use of a magnifying glass.





Magnifying Activity - Outdoor Hour Challenge



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Many ordinary things are interesting if you look at them carefully up close.
Here are some ideas to get you started.

Animal Fur	Bird Feather	Insect Wings	Flower petals, pollen or stems
Mushrooms	Rain Water	Lizard or frog	Tree Bark
Shells	Moss or Lichen	Sand	Leaves of all colors
Cracks in the sidewalk	Under a rock	Soil	Between bricks

3 Things I Observed With My Magnifying Glass:

Sketch or describe them.

- What was the smallest thing you saw with your magnifying glass?
- What was the weirdest thing you saw?
- What was the most surprising thing you saw?