Science

- The child learned about decomposition and the process of decay through the observation of the squirrel skeleton.
- They gained an understanding of the skeletal structure of animals and how bones are essential for support and protection.
- They learned about the importance of scavengers in the ecosystem and how they contribute to the decomposition process.
- The child also learned about the interconnectedness of living organisms and the environment as they observed the natural decomposition of the squirrel.

Encourage the child to continue their exploration of animal skeletons by introducing them to more wildlife and exploring the differences in skeletal structures between different animals. They can also investigate the process of fossilization and how it relates to the preservation of ancient animal remains.

Book Recommendations

- <u>How Do Dinosaurs Say Goodnight?</u> by Jane Yolen: A delightful story about dinosaurs that can spark the child's interest in ancient creatures and their remains.
- <u>From Tadpole to Frog</u> by Wendy Pfeffer: This book explores the life cycle of a frog, including its transformation and decomposition after death.
- <u>Animals in Winter</u> by Henrietta Bancroft: This book provides insight into how animals adapt to the changing seasons, including the role of decomposition in the winter ecosystem.

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