Learning with Gina and Ollie · Explore together

Little stories. Real discoveries. Follow Gina and Ollie through twenty seven-page adventures, then try an everyday investigation together.

Ages 4–7 or 5–7 as shown, always with a grown-up. Read, point, predict, draw or direct an adult. No independent reading is needed.

Wonder

Read the opening. Pause on page 2 for an idea; do not reveal the answer yet.

Notice

Look at pages 3 and 4. Ask what changed before naming a cause.

Explain

Read page 5. A diagram helps explain; it is not a photograph of an invisible process.

Try

Read the adult setup first. Let the child point, predict, describe or direct the safe test.

Return

Keep a sketch or a sentence. Revisit the question later, without scores or right-guess rewards.

Intro

The shared moment matters more than reaching the pictured result. Pick one discovery that suits your equipment, space and child's interest. Stop after the story if today is a reading day.

Unexpected

Describe the actual result, then check the named materials and fixed parts. Change one planned feature for another trial, repeating the comparison fairly. Never add heat, chemicals or stronger equipment to force the illustrated outcome.

Classroom

Preview the adult setup and prepare one demonstration or a supervised small group. Use page 2 for private thinking or pointing, pages 3–4 for observations, and page 5 for a careful explanation. Invite different observations without ranking predictions.

Inclusion

Offer seated viewing, adult-operated equipment and a choice of pointing, describing, drawing or directing. Read text aloud at a comfortable pace. Provide the transcript and printed pages; do not require color naming, gripping, counting, hearing or independent reading for every activity. Use each discovery's specific participation alternative.

Equipment

Check the activity-specific materials and adult setup before gathering a group. Use the named unbreakable containers; supervise and promptly empty water. If suitable equipment or supervision is unavailable, discuss the illustrated story instead.

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Record

A record can be one drawing, a spoken sentence written by an adult or a marked page. Keep it with the family or classroom; the website collects no observations.

Print

Choose A4 or US Letter to match your printer. Full-page stories preserve the complete 4:5 composition. Two-up cards save paper and work best when a grown-up reads alongside the child. Guides and records use little ink.

Scope

These editorial activities are designed for shared discovery. No live family experiment, learning-outcome study or individual developmental assessment is claimed.

5 discovery journeys

Notice the clues

Start with a hidden texture, spot moving air, then listen for a changing ring. Different senses offer different kinds of evidence.

Accept a description before naming a cause.

06. Can you draw a hidden leaf? · Look for a pattern

18. Can you spot the wind? · Observe an invisible cause

05. Can you stop a sound? · Listen and compare

Predict and compare

Follow paper, a sliding block, ice, an orange and a shadow. Keep returning to what changed and what stayed fixed.

Invite a guess, compare carefully, then describe the actual result.

02. Same paper. Different fall. · Compare shape

10. What slows the slide? · Change one surface

07. Which bowl melts ice faster? · Make a fair comparison

09. Will it float without its peel? · Compare before and after

01. Little owl. Giant shadow. · Compare position

Explain what is hidden

Air, light, static electricity and magnetism can have visible effects. Each explanation has its own evidence and limits.

Separate what eyes can see from what a diagram helps explain.

11. Can paper stay dry underwater? · Use evidence for hidden air

08. Did the pencil bend? · Check an appearance

14. Can a comb lift paper? · Compare before and after rubbing

20. Does shiny mean magnetic? · Test a material claim

Follow a change

Watch water spread, paper unfold, ink separate, pepper move and sugar dissolve. Similar-looking surprises can have different causes.

Keep before-and-after observations, then choose a careful name for the process.

03. Can water climb? · Follow a wet edge

15. Can a paper flower bloom? · Watch paper change shape

12. What's hiding in black ink? · Separate a mixture

13. Can soap move pepper? · Compare two touches

16. Where did the sugar go? · Explain dissolving

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Lead an investigation

Choose a measuring unit, compare a bridge design, then follow a living bean over days. Let the child help make a fair plan.

Choose a question, plan what to keep fixed, record what actually happens and revisit.

19. Same leaf. Different numbers? · Measure with equal units

04. Can paper be a bridge? · Test a design

17. What grows first? · Observe over days

Each discovery has its own complete family/teacher guide. Start at https://kiddos.ai/explorations/learning-with-gina-and-ollie/print

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Our discovery record

Point, draw, speak or ask a grown-up to write. Keep this record with you; nothing needs to be uploaded.

Discovery / date: _____

My question or prediction

What we kept the same / what changed

What I noticed

What I think now / what to try next