

Using Science Skills with a Magnifying Glass: What Do Things Look like up Close?

1. Observe the Crystals in a Cube of Ice

Ever wondered what ice looks like up close? Use your magnifying glass to take a closer look at it! With your magnifying glass you can see the ice-crystal patterns and different shades of white and blue. Turns out ice cubes are pretty complex!

2. Take a Peek at Your Hairbrush

Brushing your hair to get ready for the big day ahead of you? Next time you do take some time to look at strands of your hair up close using your magnifying glass. At normal eye level your hair looks smooth and fine, but what happens when you look at it up close? What do you see? Does your hair look the same as your parent's hair or is it different? What's different about it?

3. Check out the Fibers in a Strand of Yarn

Next time you're snuggled up under your favorite blanket grab your magnifying glass to look at the fibers keeping your blanket together. Do the fibers have a pattern? What about the other fabrics around your room? How do the fibers of your T-shirt look compared to your blanket? How about your socks? You can even look at the fibers holding your couch together!

4. Peer into Your Dinner Plate

Ever sprinkle some salt and pepper onto the delicious dinners your parents make you? Before you dig in take a second to peek at a few of those salt crystals under your magnifying glass. What do granules of salt look like up close? What about the different foods on your plate? Which food do you think looks coolest under the magnifying glass?

5. Look at a Plant

How different do things look from our normal eye level when they are magnified? Use the left half of this paper to draw what a leaf looks like when you look at it at normal eye level. Now use your magnifying glass to look at the same leaf. Does it look different to you? Draw what you see in the magnifying glass on the right half of this paper.



Look Closely!

