**Let’s Get Talking!**

**Theme: In The Country**

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| ***Vocabulary:***  country nature environment water natural feature  rock pebble tree mountain river/stream  plant flower reed grass moss  sky quiet cloud building round tower  rural church landscape peaceful wildlife |

Look at the attached picture and ask your child the following questions.

**Questions:**

* Where do you think this photograph is taken- town or city?
* Have you been to a place like this before? (Glendalough, Co. Wicklow)
* What natural features can you see in this photograph?
* What man-made features can you see in the photograph?
* Why is some of the water white? Explain your reasoning.

**Activity 1: Soundscapes**

* With your child, listen to 5-10 minutes of the relaxing sounds of nature recorded at <https://tinyurl.com/hv6xlow>
* Before listening, encourage your child to close his/her eyes and visualize being at the location shown in the image.
* While listening, encourage your child to think of the animal/natural feature that produces each sound and either remember them, or create a list for discussion later.
* Discuss with your child the different types of sounds you have may hear while in an environment similar to the one shown in the image/video. For example, you might hear animal sounds like birds chirping to each other.

**Activity 2: Make a Model.**

* Encourage your child to plan and create a 3D model of the scene in the photograph, using natural materials and/or craft materials.
* Encourage your child to create a short procedural video, showing his/her final version and explaining the materials s/he used to create each feature, the steps s/he used to made his/her model and how the model could be improved to make it more realistic.

**Activity 3: I Spy**

* Use a magnifying glass for this activity. If you don’t have one, you can make one quite easily by drawing and cutting out the shape of a magnifying glass. Cut out a circle and then glue in a circle of cellophane.
* Encourage your child to choose an object in the photograph and say the sentence “I spy with my little eye, something beginning with ….” (completing the sentence with the first letter of the secret object).
* Parents can take a turn trying to guess the object the “spy” is thinking of, before swapping roles.
* Encourage your child to ask questions using correct grammar and to listen carefully to any clues that you may give.

**Activity 4:**