These photos show what happens when things that are very small are made into things that are very large. In July, the Bruce Museum will be hosting an exhibition of microscope photography called Nikon’s Small World. In this exhibition, artists have focused on the tiny, giving viewers an unprecedented glimpse at the invisible world around them. Slime molds becoming towering trees, an entire universe is revealed in a drop of water and the leg of a beetle is a brilliant pattern.

José R. Almodóvar
Slime mold (Mixomicete)

Igor Siwanowicz,
Front foot (tarsus) of a male diving beetle

Your Turn!

What secret worlds do you think are all around you? Here’s an easy way to find out. Get a two-liter soda bottle and draw a big circle around the curved part just below the spout. With a grown-up’s help cut out the circle so that it looks like a small clear bowl. Put a little water in and presto! It’s a magnifying glass. Use your new magnifying glass to examine the world around you; grass, cloth, stones, your kitchen table, anything! You can even take a photo through the water to for your own magnifying photography.

GET Creative!

Common Core State Standard: