

Nature Art Worksheet

Directions: In order to complete this worksheet, you will need to spend some time outdoors

1. Head outside and search for a variety of natural items that are different colors, shapes, textures, and sizes. Write or talk about the items you found and try to describe them. Try to draw one or more of your items. Make sure to look closely at the item so you can include as many details as possible.
2. With your pile of collected items, try to create some ephemeral art. Ephemeral means that it's not meant to last long. You can create a design, an animal, or anything you can imagine.
3. You can make a copy of a natural item by doing nature stamps. To do this, you can paint one side of a leaf, stick, piece of bark, etc., and then stamp it on a piece of paper. Make sure you push down on all parts of the item to get a good impression. You may need to experiment with differing amounts of paint to get the style you're looking for. Can you make a cool design or picture using just nature stamps?
4. Another way to get an impression of a natural item is to make nature rubbings. Choose another item from your pile, put a piece of paper over it, and then color it lightly with the side of a crayon. You will see that the texture of the item shows up on your drawing! Try a couple of different items and then compare and contrast the textures on your artwork.
5. Did you know that you can color with plants? Find a colorful flower (like a dandelion) or a green leafy plant like clover. Put it on a piece of paper and then press really hard on your plant while you move it around. You will see that you can transfer colors from 1 item onto your paper. Try this with a few different plants and talk or write about your experiences. Was 1 plant's color transfer more successful than another? Why do you think plants like flowers have different colors?
6. With your pile of found items, practice being an architect and try to build something. It can be an animal home, a tower, or a 3-D picture. Experiment with stacking sticks and making them stand up. Can you build a home for a toad? What about a really tall tower? Really challenge yourself and try to create something that you can fit inside. Do you know of any animals that can be considered architects like you? Look up a few animal home designs and write or talk about how that design benefits that animal.