

Foraging for Art – Floral/Leaf Printing

Recommended ages: All

This activity involves students foraging for different kinds of leaves and then using these in a creative way to produce a piece of art. Students can consider trying different compositions or perhaps experimenting with complementary colours. Being outdoors and being creative are important for students' social and emotional wellbeing. It can be adapted for all ages and stages.

You will need:

- Bag (to collect the leaves/flowers)
- Leaves and/or flowers
- Perspex sheets
- Different coloured printing inks
- Roller
- Paper

Step by step instructions

Students spend time outside collecting different types of leaves and flowers.

In the classroom students then roll out printing ink on a sheet of Perspex. They then place the leaf/flower on the ink and use the roller, applying even pressure to ensure the ink has coated one side.

Next, the leaf/flower is carefully peeled off and placed on the paper.

Another sheet of paper is placed over the top and students use their hands to press the ink onto the page.

This process is repeated using different leaves/flowers and colours to create pieces of artwork.

To reduce the risk of unwanted ink transfer, use clean sheets of paper or ensure the ink is dry prior to repeating the printing process.

For the 4 canvases the students chose colours, leaves or flowers to represent the different seasons: Spring; Summer; Autumn; Winter.