

Using Nature to Spark Creativity

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Ohio Writing Project

The following activities are meant to spark your own creativity using nature as your inspiration. They are designed to encourage play for people of all ages and focus more on the process of creating over a final product. You may even be inspired to invent your own ways to create with nature!

NATURE MANDALAS

Transient art

Use nature items and other found objects to create a mandala--a circular symbol--by experimenting with different patterns and designs.



NATURE AS A CANVAS

Process art

Use items you found in nature as a painting canvas. Look closely at the different textures, lines, and patterns that you notice in each object as you paint.

NATURE PLAY

play & storytelling

Add nature items to toys and other play things. Use your imagination to play and create stories. You may even be inspired to write your story down or create your own picture book!





NATURE AS A TOOL

process art

Use items you find in nature as an artist's tool. Perhaps, your nature item will become your paintbrush or you will experiment with print-making.

PATTERNS IN NATURE

observational art

Find a pattern or shape in nature that you are drawn to. See what happens when you sketch that pattern or shape over and over again.



I see little yellow petals

I smell a sweet smell

I feel softness

I love dandelions!



CREATIVITY IN WORDS

observational poetry

Look closely at one of your nature items. As you observe, try to describe your item in as much detail as you can. Play around with words and phrases to create a poem.

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