

Art and Architecture



Topic Focus

Observational drawing, collecting ideas from nature for collage, sculptural elements, abstract art and using digital media.

Overview

The activities in this topic reveal to the children how inspirational burial grounds can be for creative art projects. Burial grounds provide a rich source of ideas and stimulation and are excellent starting points for a range of art activities and projects that give the children's practical work more meaning. The activities study patterns in nature, sculptural and geometric shapes in buildings, structures and memorials.

The activities support the classroom study of artists who use nature for inspiration, for example, Andy Goldsworthy, William Morris and Henri Matisse. They also support studies into abstract artists like Picasso and Kandinsky as well as architectural artists like Antoni Gaudi.

These activities are: Curious Carvings, Signs and Symbols, Wild About Art, Abstract Architecture.

Curriculum Links

This topic helps develop pupils' knowledge, skills and understanding in Art and Design and Design and Technology.

EYFS

Expressive arts and design
Exploring and using media and materials
Being Imaginative

EYFS, KS1 & KS2

Key Skills

Investigating
Comparing
Contrasting
Observing
Collecting
Expressing
Designing
Reflecting
Recording

Key Words

Digital
Architecture
Abstract
Texture
Shape



John Muir Award

Discover
Explore
Conserve
Share



Try the following activities if you are working for any of the following badges:

Rainbows - Look and Learn

Beavers - Explore Activity

Brownies - Artist, Out and About

Cubs - Artist Activity

Scouts - Artist Activity, Arts Enthusiast Activity, Photographer Activity, Craft Activity

Wild About Art

Burial grounds provide children with the perfect environment to explore the patterns created by nature. The suggested activities encourage children to search out their favourite colours, textures and shapes. Children will create observational sketches and collect objects on site to inform nature inspired art projects in the classroom.

Learning Outcomes

Children will:

- Develop skills in drawing by studying shapes, colours and textures in nature
- Use sketchbooks to record their observations and experiences
- Explore ideas for design
- Review, revisit and refine first-hand observations

Resources

Drawing materials - e.g. pencils, colour pencils, crayons, fine black pens, pastels, paper and sketchbooks, camera, collecting bag or tub.

My Nature's Treasures

Leaf template

Preparation

It would be useful if children were familiar with the work of artists such as Andy Goldsworthy and William Morris who use natural materials, colours and shapes as a source of inspiration.

Activity ideas

1. Nature collection - go on a nature treasure hunt and collect dead or dying materials, for example, fallen leaves, twigs, bark and stones. Select objects displaying differing textures, shapes, patterns and colours.

Remember the importance of disturbing the area as little as possible. Children could record living materials by taking photographs. Use *my nature's treasures* recording sheet to focus observations and collections.

2. Observational drawing - draw a natural object in detail. Draw the same object from different viewpoints or in another medium.

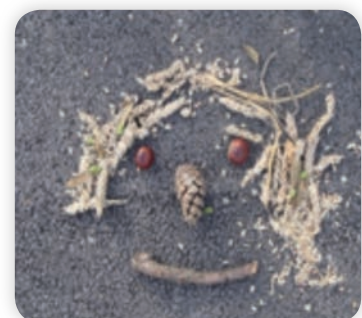
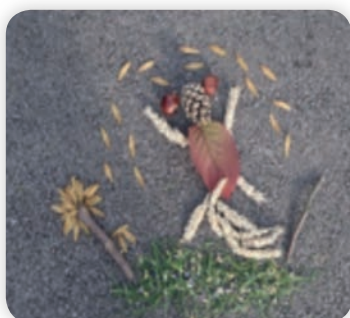
3. Wild art - create a floor picture with your nature collection (this activity may be better done back at school). Take a photograph.

Plenary

Talk about the shapes and patterns you have discovered. Have you found something that has surprised you?

Back at School

- Make a display of your nature collection
- Examine your nature collection closely and identify patterns with a magnifying glass.

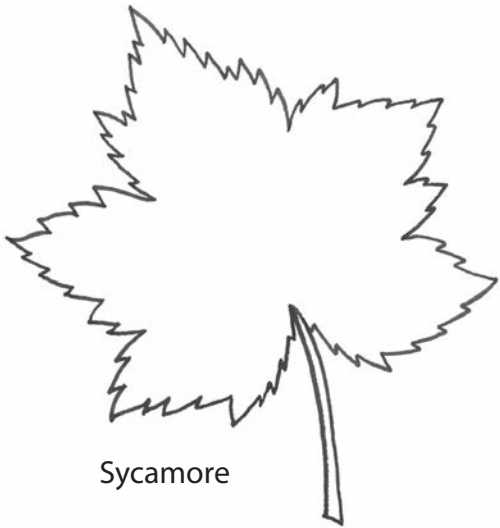


My Nature's Treasures Record

Colour	Shape	Texture
Green	Long and thin	Smooth
Yellow	Round	Prickly
Brown	Symmetrical	Furry



LEAF TEMPLATES



Sycamore



Hawthorn



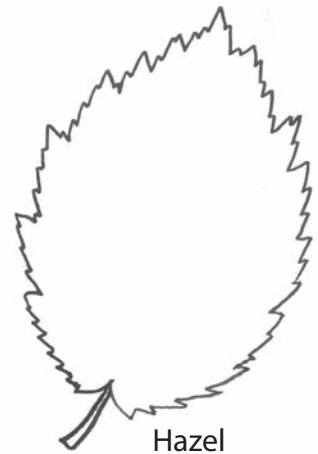
Holly



Oak



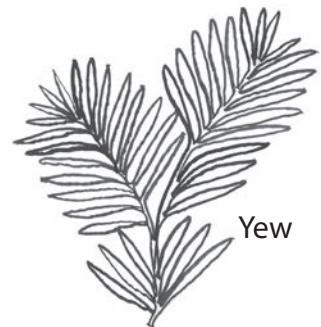
Ash



Hazel



Which leaves can you find?
Can you find different ones?



Yew



Beech