

Nature Art

Outdoor U At-Home
Summer Camps
Summer 2020

Name: _____

Welcome to Nature Art At-Home Camp!

Objectives

- Gain an appreciation for the colors, shapes, patterns, and textures of nature.
- Learn about the principles of art and how they apply to nature.
- Think creatively using the things from nature you have near your home.
- View nature in your neighborhood in a new way.
- Respect, observe, and wonder about the world!

How do Art and Nature Work Together?

Both have colors, textures, shapes, patterns, unity, and variety!

- Many artists use nature as inspiration. Some even use pieces of nature to make their art!
- Plants, animals, and other things in nature come in lots of colors, shapes, textures, and patterns.

Camp Overview

We will explore some of the principles of art by using nature as a guide!

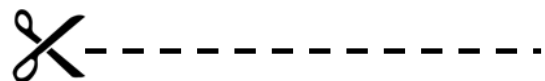
- Monday - Color
- Tuesday - Texture
- Wednesday - Shape
- Thursday - Pattern
- Friday - Unity/Variety

Packet Key

Look for these in your packet!



Ask for a grownup's permission first!



If you want, you can cut along the line and put the worksheet in your nature journal.



Bonus activity!


Things to Know Before Camp

Materials You Might Need

- Art supplies (crayons, markers)
- Scissors
- Glue or tape
- Containers
- String or yarn
- Cardboard
- Playdough or Salt Dough (recipe on page 30)
- Box or shoebox
- Hammer or mallet
- Sidewalk chalk
- Paintbrush (or fingers!)
- Things from nature (sticks, leaves, rocks, etc.)
- Coffee filters
- Construction paper (3 pieces included for page 36 activity)
- Creativity!

If you do not have some of these things, do not worry! Be creative or ask us a question about it on Flipgrid.

Flipgrid

- Ask a grownup to help you find instructions for setting up Flipgrid in an email. 
- Each day, there will be an introduction video to watch before you start your activities.
- There will also be introduction and reflection questions on Flipgrid for you to answer each day.
- If you have a question, leave it in the “I Have A Question!” topic on Flipgrid and staff will answer it as soon as possible!

What to do the Weekend Before Camp

- Watch the “Introduction Video” on Flipgrid
- Complete your Nature Explorer Profile on page 5 in this packet!
- Post your first response in the “Welcome to Junior Naturalist Camp” topic on Flipgrid. You can use your Nature Explorer profile to help you answer!

Things to Know for Camp


Activity Tips

- You will find lots of activities in this packet. We recommend that you do at least 3 of the activities each day, or you can do 1, or all of them! It is up to you.
 - Once you do your activities, don't forget to nature journal, check Flipgrid, and color in your badge!
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Nature Journal

- Naturalists use their nature journals to record what they find in nature.
 - Each day, there are "Nature Journal Ideas." You can choose to do some, all, or none of these!
 - Find a "sit-spot" outside that you can go to every day. Remember to record the date, time, and weather every time you sit down to nature journal!
 - Watch the video called "How to Nature Journal" for more tips and tricks.
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Artists of the Day

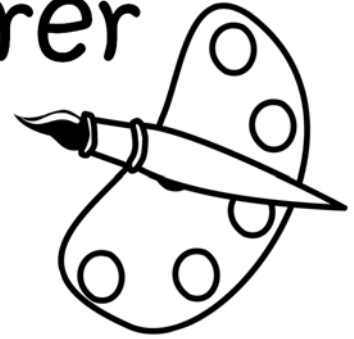
- Each day, there are two "Artists of the Day."
 - If you want to learn more about one, ask a grownup to go to the Camper Resources page on the Outdoor U website. There are even some videos of the artists talking about their art! 
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By the end of the week, you will be an amazing Nature Artist! We hope you stay safe, have fun, and learn lots!

Nature Art At-Home Camp



Nature Explorer Profile



Name: _____

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for a drawing or a printed photo of the user.

Draw or print out a picture of yourself to go here!

Favorite Animal: _____

Favorite Thing to do Outside: _____

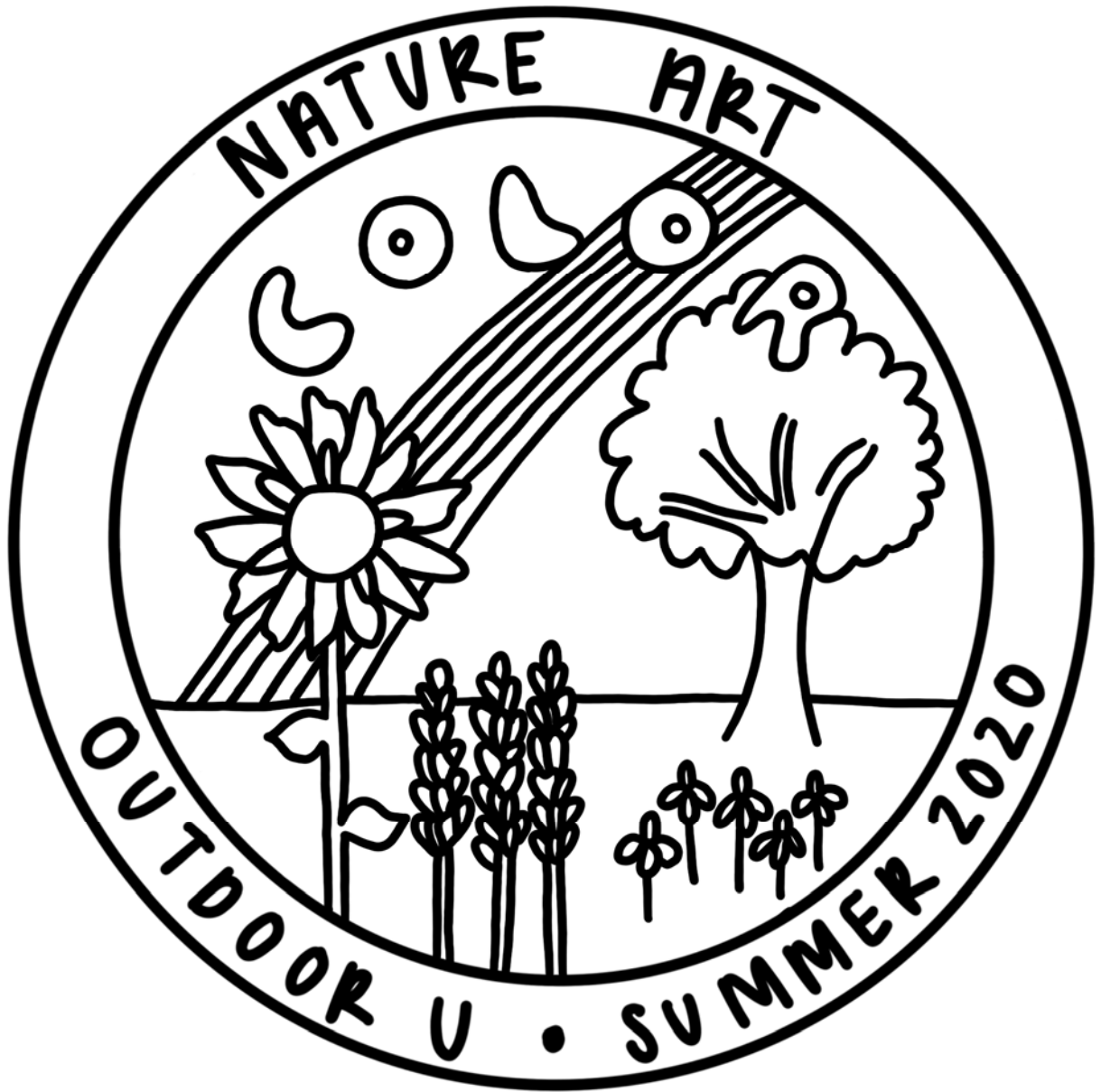
Favorite Color: _____

Favorite Art Supply: _____

Favorite Type of Art I Like to Create: _____

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Nature Art At-Home Camp



Monday

Nature Art Daily Options

Monday - Color

Use this list of options as a guide to help you decide what you want to do during the day. You can do as many or as few as you want but remember, the more you do the more you learn!

- Watch the “Color Introduction” video on Flipgrid.
- Answer the color introduction question on Flipgrid.
- Watch the “How to Nature Journal” video on Flipgrid .
- Decorate your nature journal to make it your own! Be creative—use markers, colored pencils, crayons, stickers, or anything else you can find!
- Go to your “sit spot” and choose a few color nature journal ideas to answer.
- Read about the “Artists of the Day”.
- Color activity options—choose how many you would like to do!
 - * Color Hunt
 - * Make Your Own Nature Rainbow
 - * Wet That Color
 - * Color Rubbing
 - * Seasonal Colors
 - * Nature Tie-Dye
 - * Bonus: Painting With Rocks
 - * Bonus: Chip Color Hunt
- Answer the color reflection question on Flipgrid.
- You completed color day! Color in the color badge.

COLOR


Hello Nature Explorers! Each day this week we will be focusing on a different principle of art. Today we will be focusing on color. There are so many different colors and shades of colors that we can find in nature. Artists like to use different colors to show mood in a work of art. To do this, artists like to use primary colors (red, yellow, and blue) as well as secondary colors (orange, green, and purple).

Today we will be taking a closer look at different colors to help us observe, wonder, and explore in nature!

Nature Journal of the Day

Find a “sit spot” either inside your home near a window or outside near your home. Try to come to this spot every time you answer one of these ideas!

Take your nature journal to your “sit spot” and choose a few of the ideas to answer.

- While the sun is rising or setting, look at the sky. What are all of the colors that you see? Use your art supplies to draw these colors. Some people like to draw exactly what the sky looks like. Some people like to just put all of the colors onto the page. Either one is beautiful and you can choose to do which one you like! Helpful tip: sometimes the sun moves really fast so you might want to take a picture!
- When you look around, do you see different things in nature that are the same color? Try to find a few things that are all the same color. Use your art supplies to draw these things in your nature journal. Now try it again with a different color!
- Start an observation list! When you look around, are there any colors that stand out to you today? Are there some bright flowers nearby or is the grass super green? Draw or write what colors you observe in your nature journal.
- With a grownup’s permission, go to the Nature Art camp page on the Outdoor U Website. Click on the link so you are able to look at Dan Mondloch’s painting. In his painting, what colors do you see? What is the brightest color you see? What is the darkest color you see? Draw or write these in your nature journal. 
- Not all animals see color the same way that humans do. Bees see color in a totally different way which helps them get nectar from flowers! In your nature journal write what your life would be like if you saw colors differently.

Artists of the Day - Color

Name: Dan Mondloch

From: Saint Cloud, Minnesota

What kind of art they make:

Plein air (painting outside) painting

Fun fact: Dan has won many local awards for his artwork!



Name: Alma Thomas

From: Washington D.C.

Lived: 1891-1978

What kind of art they make:

Abstract paintings

Fun fact: When Alma was little she liked to make puppets and sculptures!



Go to the camp resource page on the Outdoor U website to view artwork by Dan and Alma. Be sure to ask a grownup for help!

Color Hunt

There are so many different colors that make up nature, even in your backyard! Try to see how many different colors you can find near your home.

Materials:

- Nature journal
- Art supplies



If you liked
this activity, try
“Bonus: Rainbow Chip
Hunt” on page 17.

Instructions:

1. Grab a few different colors from your art supplies.
2. Go outside near your home with the colors that you chose. With those colors, try to find something in nature that matches each color.
3. In your nature journal, draw and label the things you found and the color that it matched.

Make Your Own Nature Rainbow

Rainbows are really pretty, but have you ever wanted to get creative and make your very own? Guess what?! You are going to make your very own rainbow using colors that you find outside near your home.

Materials:

- Things from nature
- Art supplies
- Nature journal

Reminder:

The colors of the rainbow are

- Red
- Green
- Orange
- Blue
- Yellow
- Purple

Instructions:

1. Go outside near your home and look for things that are the different colors of the rainbow.
2. Using the things you found, arrange them to make your very own nature rainbow!
3. After you are done, use your art supplies to draw the rainbow you created in your nature journal.

Wet That Color

Light allows us to see color. When things get wet, our eyes see this light in a new way and the color looks like it is darker. This happens because of the way that our eyes see the color. You are going to explore making dry things wet and watch the color change.

Materials:

- Paintbrush (or fingers!)
- Bowl filled with water

Instructions:

1. Go outside near your home. Pick a few things that you will paint with water.
2. Use your paintbrush (or fingers) to paint water onto the things you chose.
3. Notice how these things look darker when they are wet than when they are dry.

Color Rubbings

Sometimes, when things in nature are rubbed onto something else, they leave some of their color behind! Have you ever tried rubbing a dandelion on your hand to see the yellow mark it leaves behind? In this activity, you will get to try rubbing things from nature into your nature journal to see what kind of colors they leave behind!

Materials:

- Things from nature
- Nature journal
- Something to write with

Instructions:

1. Go outside near your home and bring your nature journal with you.
2. Find different things from nature that you think might rub off its color onto paper. (This could be grass, dirt, flowers, and even rocks!)
3. Rub each nature thing into your nature journal. Does it leave some of its color behind? Is the color the same as the color of the nature thing, or different?
4. If it left a mark, make sure to label it!



If you liked this activity, try "Bonus: Painting with Rocks" on page 15.

Seasonal Colors

When you think of each season, different colors might pop into your head! Think about the color of the snow or changing leaves or other things you might see during that season. In this activity, you will be using the colors you think of when you think of each season.

Materials:

- Seasonal Colors Worksheet (below)
- Art supplies

Instructions:

1. Think about each season. What colors do you think of when you think of summer? What about fall, winter, and spring?
2. In each season's box, use your art supplies to put these colors on the worksheet.



Seasonal Colors Worksheet

Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter

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Nature Tie-Dye

If you have ever done any tie-dye before, you know it is fun to see all of the colors bleed together and make shapes or patterns. This activity is a little mini tie-dye project that is fun for a rainy day or can be completed with a small cup of water!

Materials:

- Coffee filters
- Piece of scrap paper
- Markers
- Paper towels
- Watering can, a cup of water, or rain!

Instructions:

1. Set the coffee filter on top of the piece of scrap paper (in case your markers bleed through!). Use your markers to color the coffee filter.
2. Take your coffee filter and go outside near your home. Set it down on the ground. If it is not raining, pour water onto it. (The more water you add the more the colors change.)
3. Watch how the colors move around your coffee filter! Did the colors blend to make a new color? Were any new shapes created?
4. Leave your coffee filter in the grass or place it on some paper towels for a few minutes until it dries!



Bonus: Painting With Rocks



Humans from all over the world have been using rock dust to make paint for hundreds of thousands of years. Imagine paintings on cave walls. Most of those were painted with paint made from ground-up rock. Now you'll get to try making your own paint with rocks!

Materials:

- Different rocks
- Water
- Nature journal
- Paint brush (or your fingers!)

Instructions:

1. Go outside near your home and find different types of rocks. Try to find some that are soft and some that are hard.
2. Rub a harder rock on the softer rock to make some dusty powder, ask a grownup if you need some help.
3. Pour some water onto the dusty powder.
4. Using your fingers or a paintbrush, mix the water with the powder until you make a "paint."
5. Use this paste to paint in your nature journal.
6. Experiment with different types of rocks. Do some make different colors than others? What happens to the color when you add more water? What happens when you mix some of the paints together?

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Bonus: Rainbow Chips Hunt

Have you ever noticed that sometimes colors are darker or lighter? When you have a color and add white to it to make it lighter, it is called a tint. When you add black to a color to make it darker, it is called a shade.

You will be exploring more about tints and shades of different colors.

Materials:

- Rainbow Chips (below)
- Art supplies
- Nature journal

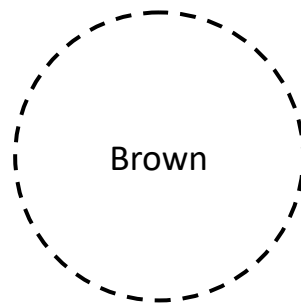
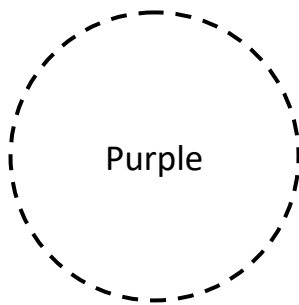
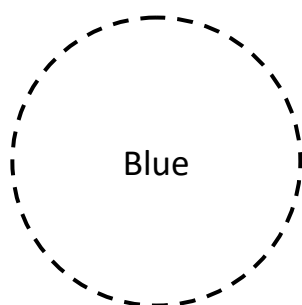
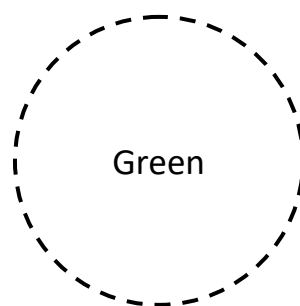
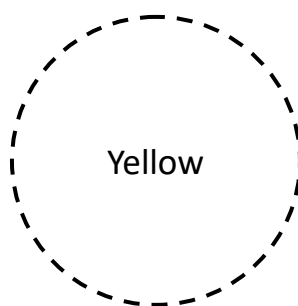
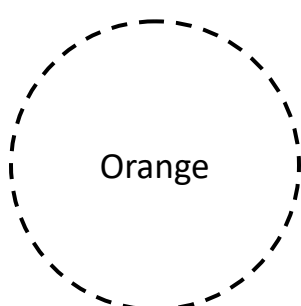
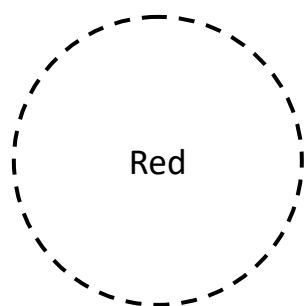
Instructions:

1. Use some art supplies to color in each of the chips on the worksheet with the color that it is labeled with.
2. Go outside near your home with your worksheet, if you would like, you can cut out the chips you colored in.
3. Find the colors that are on the worksheet outside near your home. Try to find two things for each color. One that is lighter and one that is darker.
4. Use your art supplies to draw the things you find in your nature journal.



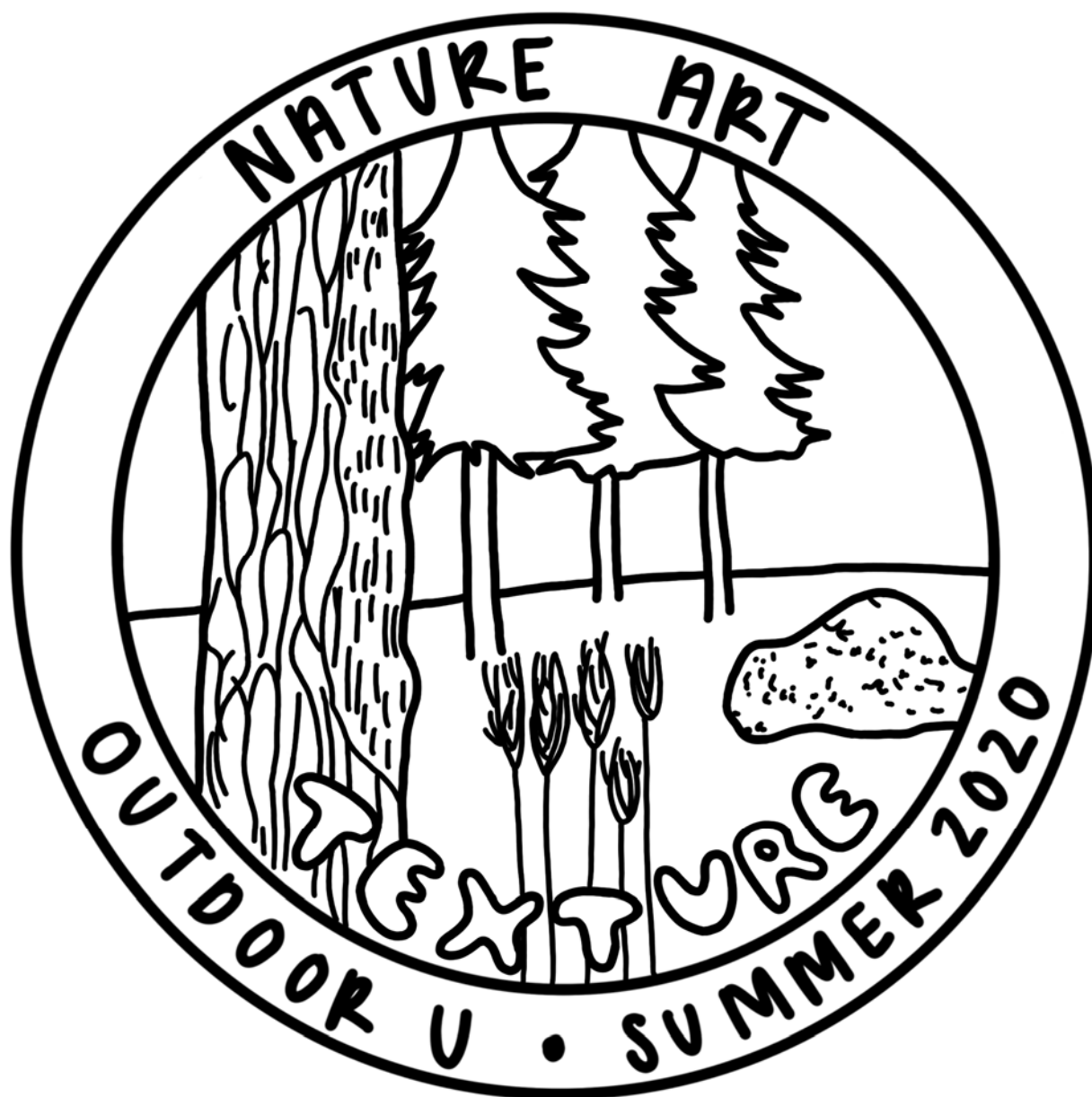
Rainbow Chips

 You can cut these chips out on the dotted lines!



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Nature Art At-Home Camp



Tuesday

Nature Art Daily Options

Tuesday - Texture

Use this list of options as a guide to help you decide what you want to do during the day. You can do as many or as few as you want but remember, the more you do the more you learn!



- Watch the “Texture Introduction” video on Flipgrid.
- Answer the texture introduction question on Flipgrid.
- Go to your “sit spot” and choose a few texture nature journal ideas to answer.
- Read about the “Artists of the Day”.
- Texture activity options— choose how many you would like to do!
 - * Texture Rubbings
 - * Textures with Playdough
 - * Nature Paint Brushes
 - * Texture Collage
 - * Same Color, Different Texture
 - * Alike, but not Alike
 - * Mud Painting
 - * Bonus: Nature Impressions
- Answer the texture reflection Flipgrid question.
- You completed texture day! Color in the texture badge.

TEXTURE

Hello Nature Explorers! Today we will be focusing on different textures that we find in nature. Textures are the way things feel. Every single thing has its own texture and can even have more than one! Artists like to use different textures to add depth or balance to make their art interesting. Today we are going to focus on texture to observe, wonder, and explore nature.

Nature Journal of the Day

Take your nature journal to your “sit spot” and choose a few of the ideas to answer.

- Pick a few things outside near your home that have different textures and bring them with you to your “sit spot.” Close your eyes and feel their texture. With your eyes still closed, draw the different textures in your nature journal. Once you are done, open your eyes and label each texture with the thing from nature it was from.
- Feel the ground around you with your hands. Remember to be careful! Are there things that are near you that feel similar? Draw these things in your nature journal and write what their textures feel like.
- Add to your observation list. Feel the ground or any plants that are near you. Write or draw their textures down on your observation list in your nature journal.
- With a grownup’s permission, go to the Nature Art camp page on the Outdoor U Website. Click on the link so you are able to look at Dan Mondloch’s painting. What kind of textures do you think the different things in the painting have? You could look at the trees, water, or sand on the beach! Draw or write these textures in your nature journal. 
- Many things might feel different with your feet than with your hands. Double check around you to make sure there is nothing that will hurt your feet and that it is okay with your grownup that you can walk outside barefoot. If it looks safe, take off your shoes. Feel the ground beneath your feet. In your nature journal write what your feet feel. 

Artists of the Day - Texture

Name: Pat and Tony Peroutky

From: Sartell, Minnesota

What kind of art they make:

Photography

Fun fact: Pat and Tony take lots of pictures in the Saint John's Abbey Arboretum!



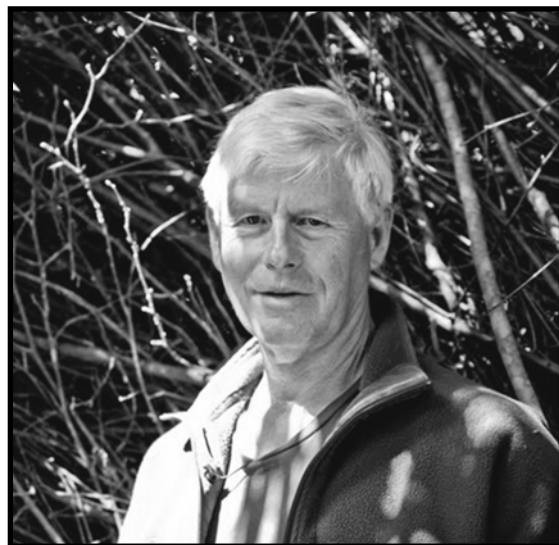
Name: Patrick Dougherty

From: Oklahoma

Age: 75

What kind of art they make: Sculptures

Fun fact: Patrick made a sculpture at Saint John's in 2012!



Go to the camp resource page on the Outdoor U website to view artwork by Pat, Tony, and Patrick. Be sure to ask a grownup for help!

Texture Rubbings

Nature is made up of many different textures. Most of the time texture is something that you feel, but with this activity, you will be using crayons to help you see different textures and take a closer look at them.

Materials:

- Flat things from nature
- Paper
- Crayons (without the wrapper)
- Flat surface (clipboard, book, table)

Instructions:

1. Go outside near your home and look for things that are pretty flat. Try to get at least 3 or 4 so that you can see the difference between each of them.
2. Lay one of the things you found on your flat surface. Place the paper over the top.
3. While holding the paper in place, lay the crayon down on top and move it back and forth. You will probably have to press hard.
4. Some lines should show up on the paper. This is the texture of the object.
5. Once you do this for all the things from nature, make sure to compare them. How are the textures similar? How are they different?

Textures with Playdough

Artists use textures to add detail to their work and make it look more realistic. Today, we will use playdough to be able to visualize texture and to take a closer look at it in nature.

Materials:

- Things in nature that have cool textures (like trees)
- Playdough that is okay to get dirty or homemade salt dough (recipe on page 30)



If you liked this activity, try "Bonus: Nature Impressions" on page 30.

Instructions:

1. Go outside near your home and try to find things in nature that have cool designs.
2. If it is big (like a tree), put the playdough right on it and gently press. Then slowly peel it back to see the pattern and lines.
3. If the thing from nature is small, put the playdough flat in your hand or on a hard surface and lightly press the small thing on top. Then slowly peel the piece away from the playdough to see the pattern and lines.
4. Try again using another thing in nature!

Nature Paint Brushes

When artists paint, they like to create different textures. Different things you find in nature create many different kinds of textures. By using natural objects such as pine needles, leaves, and sticks as paintbrushes, what different textures do you think they will create?

Materials:

- Things from nature such as sticks, pine needles, and leaves
- Nature journal or piece of paper
- Washable paint

Instructions:

1. Go outside near your home and try to find things from nature with different textures that can be used as paintbrushes.
2. Use these natural paintbrushes to paint lines or whatever you would like on a piece of paper or your nature journal. Notice the different textures that each natural paintbrush creates.
3. If you painted in your nature journal, make sure to leave it open so the paint can dry!

This activity could also be done using mud on a sidewalk or driveway instead of using paper and paint!

Texture Collage

Putting together different textures in a collage can create a very interesting piece of artwork to look at along with feel. You will be picking out different textures you can find in nature and see how they work together in your very own collage.

Materials:

- Paper, cardboard, or cardstock
- Things from nature with different textures
- Glue

Instructions:

1. Go outside near your home. Collect things from nature that are different textures. They can smooth, soft, bumpy, or even rough!
2. Glue your things from nature onto your piece of paper, cardboard, or cardstock to make a texture collage.
3. Get creative! Mix and match different textures. You can even glue some of the texture rubbings you created in the "Texture Rubbing" activity in your collage!

Same Color, Different Texture

Just because two things are the same color does not mean they have the same texture. You are going to be able to find different things outside that are the same color but see how their textures are the same or different!

Materials:

- Color and Texture Worksheet (below)
- Things from nature
- Something to write with
- Art supplies

Instructions:

1. Go outside near your home. Try to find two things for each color on your worksheet. It is okay if you cannot find two things from nature for each color!
2. Gently feel all of your things from nature. Are their textures the same? Are they different?
3. Next to each color, write or draw the two things from nature that you found and write what texture they both have.



Color and Texture Worksheet

Red		Green	
Orange		Blue	
Yellow		Purple	

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Alike, but not Alike

There are so many different textures out in nature! Even two things that are made out of the same thing, might feel different. You are going to explore how two very similar things could have different textures.

Materials:

- Alike, but not Alike Worksheet (below)
- Something to write with

Instructions:

1. Go outside near your home and take your worksheet and something to write with you.
2. Find two of each thing listed on your worksheet
3. Gently feel each thing you found. Do both of the rocks feel the same? Do both of the sticks feel the same?
4. Write or draw their textures on your worksheet. If the textures are the same, make sure to write that down!



Alike, but not Alike Worksheet

Rocks		Flowers	
Sticks		Trees	
Leaves		Plant Stems	

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Mud Painting



There are many different types of soil. It could feel like sand or even clay. In this activity, you'll get to explore soil textures by turning it into paint and creating a work of art!

Materials:

- Different types of soil (potting soil, sandy soil, clay-like soil or whatever you have!)
- Jars or containers
- Rock or thick stick
- Vegetable oil
- Paper or nature journal
- Paint brush (or your fingers!)

Instructions:

1. Go outside near your home and find different types of soil. Ask a grownup before you dig anywhere!
2. Put your different soils into different jars.
3. Use a rock or stick to grind the soil into a powder or a paste.
4. Add a little bit of oil into each jar and stir until your soil is smooth, like paint!
5. Use paint brushes (or, if it's okay with your grownup, your fingers!) to make a work of art on piece of paper or your nature journal with your mud paint.
6. What do your different paints feel and look like? Try combining your different paints to make different textures and colors! If you want, you can store your paints in a lidded container in the refrigerator so they don't dry out.



Bonus: Nature Impressions



Making impressions or imprints is a way to make art by using textures! With this craft, you will be able to create and save impressions of different textures that can be found in nature.

Materials:

Ornaments

- Flowers, grass, leaves, or other things from nature
- Salt dough (see recipe below) or oven bake clay
- Smooth water bottle or something to flatten the plant into the clay
- Oven
- Chopstick or something to poke a hole in your dough/clay (optional)
- String (optional)

Salt Dough

- 1 Cup All Purpose Flour (can be substituted with gluten-free flour)
- ½ Cup salt
- ½ Cup water

Instructions:

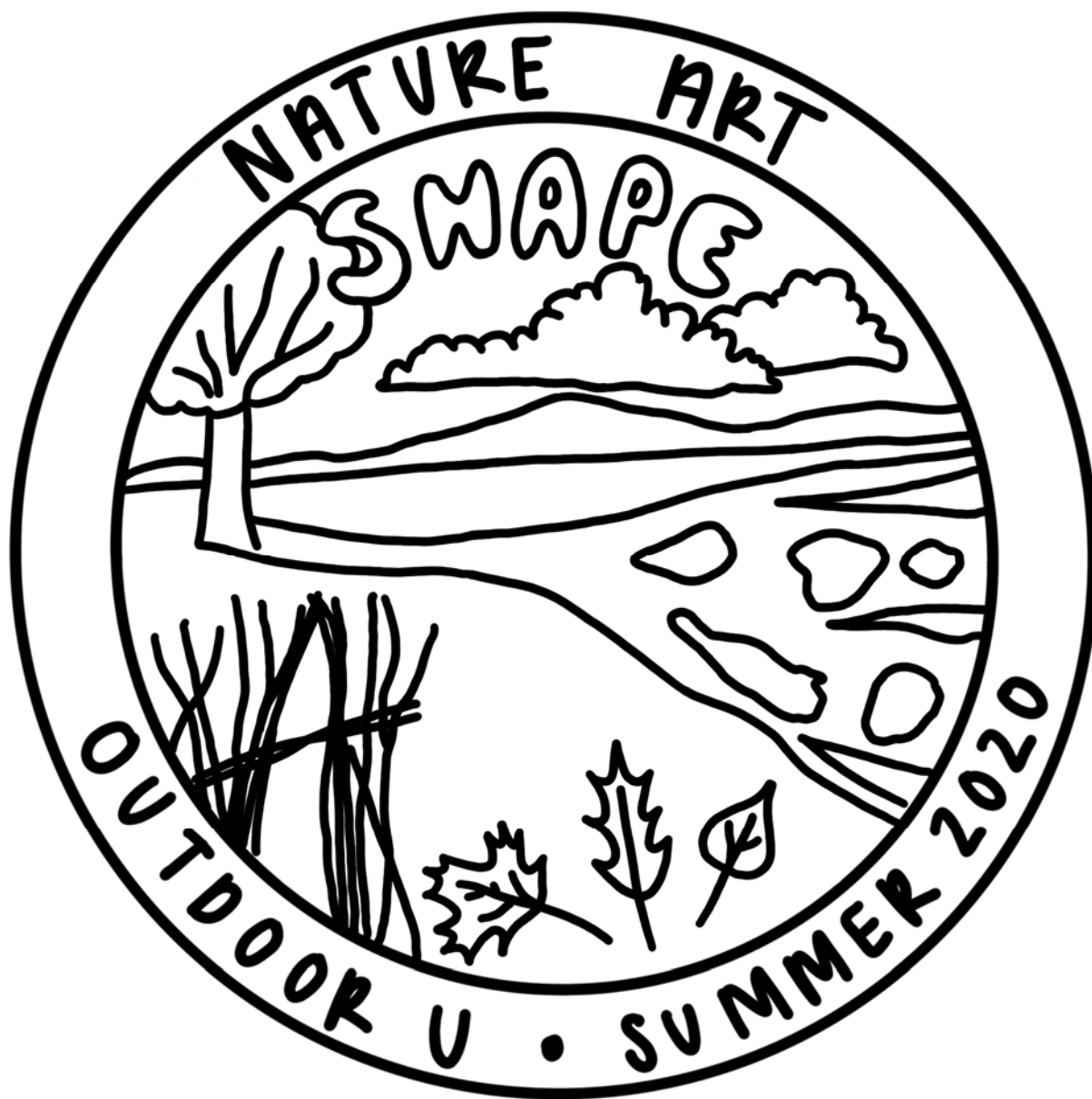
Ornaments

1. Flatten a piece of salt dough or clay big enough to fit your thing from nature.
2. Place your thing from nature on top of the dough/clay you flattened and use a smooth water bottle to help you create an imprint of your item into the dough/clay.
3. If you would like, use a chopstick to poke a hole in the top of the imprint so you can put a string through it and hang it.
4. Place your imprint on a baking sheet and put it in the oven to harden (For salt dough, bake at 180° for about 10 minutes or until hard. For clay, follow your packages instructions).
5. Take out of the oven and let cool.
6. If you would like, add a string through the hole you made and hang up your imprint!

Salt Dough

1. With a grownup's help, mix together the flour and salt in a bowl.
2. Gradually add water while mixing to form a dough. It should have the consistency of Play-Doh.
3. Knead the dough for around 5 minutes. Add more flour if it is too sticky. Add more water if it is too dry.

Nature Art At-Home Camp



Wednesday

Nature Art Daily Options

Wednesday - Shape

Use this list of options as a guide to help you decide what you want to do during the day. You can do as many or as few as you want but remember, the more you do the more you learn!


- Watch the “Shape Introduction” video on Flipgrid.
- Answer the shape introduction question on Flipgrid.
- Go to your “sit spot” and choose a few shape nature journal ideas to answer.
- Read about the “Artists of the Day”.
- Shape activity options—choose how many you would like to do!
 - * Nature Alphabet
 - * Shadow Tracing
 - * Sun Prints (use construction paper included in packet)
 - * Many Shapes of Green
 - * Find that Shape
 - * The Different Shapes of Leaves
 - * Cloud Shapes
- Answer the shape reflection Flipgrid question.
- You completed shape day! Color in the shape badge.

SHAPE

Hello Nature Explorers! Today we will be focusing on different shapes that you see in nature. Each thing in nature has its own unique shape. Artists like to use lots of different shapes to make up their larger work of art. If you look at a work of art, you might be able to pick out shapes like triangles, circles, and others! Today we are going to focus on shape to observe, wonder, and explore nature.

Nature Journal of the Day

Take your nature journal to your “sit spot” and choose a few of the ideas to answer.

- There are so many cool shapes out in nature. Have you ever wanted to make your own awesome shape? Well now you get to! Use your art supplies to get creative and draw your very own shape in your nature journal.
- When you look around, do you see things that are similar shapes? Maybe these things are round or are really long. Draw them in your nature journal and label what shape they are!
- Add to your observation list. When you look around, what shapes do you see? Write or draw these on your observation list in your nature journal.
- With a grownup’s permission, go to the Nature Art camp page on the Outdoor U Website. Click on the link so you are able to look at Dan Mondloch’s painting. What are all of the shapes you see? Is there one shape you see more than any other shape? Draw or write these in your nature journal. 
- Look at your shadow. Are you and your shadow a different shape? Write or draw the differences you see in your nature journal. If you do not see a difference write or draw about how they are similar.

Artists of the Day - Shape

Name: Jill Dubbledée-Kuhn

From: Minnesota

What kinds of art they make:

Paintings and sculptures

Fun fact: Jill works at CSBSJU in the art gallery!



Name: Maud Purdy

From: Pennsylvania

Lived: 1873-1965

What kind of art they make:

Paintings

Fun fact: Maud Purdy was hired to draw flowers for the Brooklyn Botanic (plant) Garden!



Go to the camp resource page on the Outdoor U website to view artwork by Jill and Maud. Be sure to ask a grownup for help!

Nature Alphabet

Did you know that letters of the alphabet are types of shapes?! While nature doesn't try to make letters, it is fun to walk around and find them.

Materials:

- I-spy eyes!

Instructions:

1. Go outside near your home. You could be in one space or this can be a fun activity to do on a walk/hike if a grownup comes with.
2. Look around for the letter "A" in nature. Maybe you find it in the branches of a tree, a fence, or some fallen things on the ground.
3. Once you find the letter "A" move on to "B" and then work your way all the way through the alphabet to get to "Z." Some of them will be tricky, so it is okay to be creative!

Shadow Tracing

Have you ever looked at your own shadow? Have you ever noticed a tree's shadow? They are super cool to look at because they are always changing. You are going to take a closer look at the shape of shadows!

Materials:

- Sidewalk chalk
- Sunny spot

Instructions:

1. Go outside near your home. Try to find a sunny place with many different shadows. This activity will work better if the shadows are on concrete.
2. Trace the shadow with your chalk. Do you see any interesting shapes?
3. A little bit later, come back and trace your shadow in a different color. How have the shapes changed?

Sun Prints

The sun's rays are so powerful! The sun's rays help give plants energy, can make water evaporate, and can even change the color of construction paper. In this activity you will get to see how powerful the sun is and explore different shapes by making sun prints.

Materials:

- Construction paper (included in packet)
- Things from nature

Instructions:

1. Go outside near your home.
2. Collect things from nature that are all different shapes.
3. Find a sunny spot. Put the construction paper down and put the things you collected on top of it. Tip: if you don't want leaves to blow away, put a rock on top of them!
4. Leave the construction paper there for at least 3 hours. The longer you wait, the better your sun prints will be!
5. Come back later and take your thing from nature off the construction paper. Enjoy your sun print!

Example:



Many Shapes of Green

On color day, you might have noticed that there are many shades of green outside. The reason that all leaves, needles, and other plant parts are green is because of chlorophyll. But, just because they are all green, does not mean they are all the same shape. You are going to explore by finding many different shapes of green!

Materials:

- Many Greens Datasheet (below)
- Something to write with
- Green art supplies

Instructions:

1. Go outside near your home and look for different things in nature that are green and are different shapes, like grass or leaves.
2. On the datasheet below, write what you found. Use green art supplies to draw the shade of green the thing you found is, its shape, and what it looks like.



Many Greens Datasheet

Item I Found				
Shade of Green				
Shape				

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Find That Shape

You will be surprised how many shapes there are outside. Try and see if you can find all of these shapes outside near your home!

Materials:

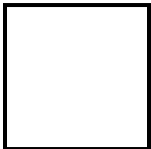
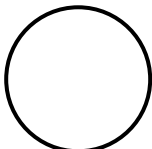
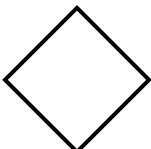
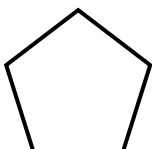
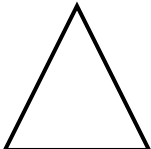
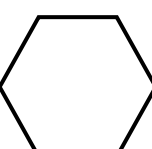
- Shapes Worksheet (below)
- Something to write with

Instructions:

1. Go outside near your home and bring your worksheet and something to write with along with you. Try to find things outside that match the shapes listed on your worksheet. It is okay if you cannot find them all!
2. Write or draw what you found outside in the space below.



Shapes Worksheet

 <p>Square or Rectangle</p>		 <p>Circle</p>	
 <p>Diamond</p>		 <p>Pentagon</p>	
 <p>Triangle</p>		 <p>Hexagon</p>	

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The Different Shapes of Leaves

Artists look closely to notice different shapes. Different trees have different shapes of leaves. You are going to look closely to notice different leaf shapes to help you find out what type of tree the leaf came from.

Materials:





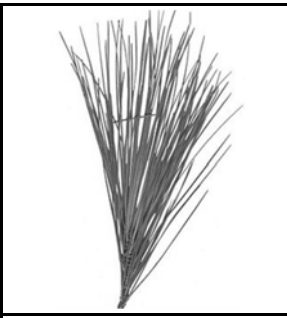


- Leaf Key (below)
- Leaves from different trees
- Nature journal
- Something to write with

Instructions:

1. Go outside near your home and try to find two or three leaves that have different shapes. These can even be needles from a pine tree!
2. Try to remember which tree you got each leaf from.
3. Trace these leaf shapes into your nature journal. How are they similar to each other? How are they different?
4. Use the Leaf Key to try to figure out what type of tree your leaf came from.



Leaf Key

Deciduous Trees that drop their leaves each fall				
	Maple	Oak	Elm	Ash
Coniferous Cone-bearing trees that have thin, needlelike leaves				
	Pine	Spruce	Cedar	

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Cloud Shapes

Clouds have different shapes. Some are really big and puffy, and other ones look like little strings. These different types of clouds have different names. You can even look for shapes of things you know in clouds, like animals! You will use your creativity to look more closely at cloud shapes.

Materials:

- Cloud Viewer from UCAR Center for Science Education (on page 45)
- Nature journal
- Something to write with
- Scissors

Instructions:

1. Cut out the center rectangle on the cloud viewer where the dotted line is. Ask a grownup if you need help!
2. Go outside near your home and find a spot where you can see the sky.
3. Hold your printable up to the sky and look for clouds through the rectangle you cut. Be careful not to look right into the sun.
4. Use your cloud viewer to try to figure out what kind of cloud they are based on their shapes.
5. Draw or write about the clouds you saw in your nature journal.
6. Now, try to look for shapes of things you know in the clouds. Maybe a cloud looks like an elephant, or a house. Use your imagination!
7. Sometimes, clouds are hard to find. Keep checking the sky until you find some clouds!
8. Use your art supplies to draw the things you saw in the clouds in your nature journal.

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1 2 3

High-level Clouds

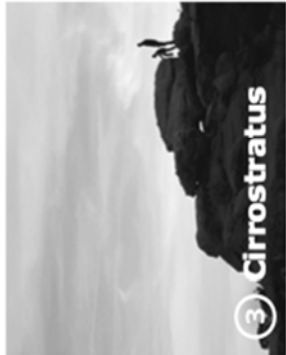
are white and thin-looking. At sunrise or sunset, they can be very colorful. They are most often made of ice crystals.



1 Cirrus



2 Cirrocumulus



3 Cirrostratus

Cloud Viewer

4 5 6

Mid-level Clouds

are made mostly of water droplets. When temperatures are very low, the water droplets can turn to ice crystals.



4 Altostratus



Saucer-shaped lenticular clouds are common in mountainous regions of the world.

How does the Cloud Viewer work?

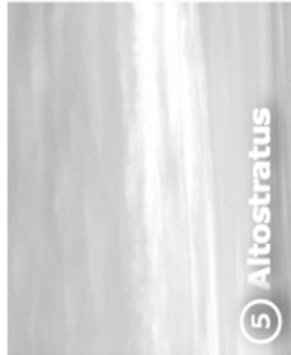
Cut along the dashed line in the center of the page. Look through the opening in the Cloud Viewer at the sky above you. What types of clouds do you see today? Use the Cloud Viewer to help you classify the clouds outside.

UCAR CENTER FOR SCIENCE EDUCATION

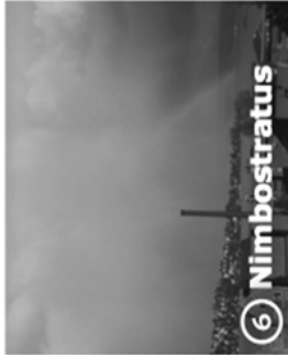


How are clouds classified?

Scientists classify clouds by how high they are in the sky (low, medium or high), and by whether they are flat (stratus), puffy (cumulus), rain-filled (nimbus), or a combination of these characteristics.



5 Altostratus



6 Nimbostratus

7 8 9 10

Low-level Clouds

are made of water droplets. Cumulonimbus clouds (9) can rise rapidly causing water droplets to turn to ice.



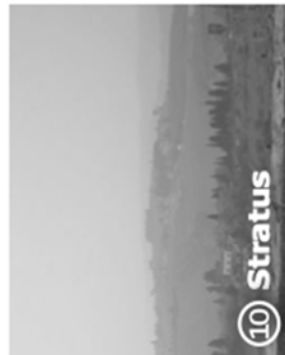
7 Cumulus



8 Stratocumulus



9 Cumulonimbus



10 Stratus

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Nature Art At-Home Camp



Thursday

Nature Art Daily Options

Thursday - Pattern

Use this list of options as a guide to help you decide what you want to do during the day. You can do as many or as few as you want but remember, the more you do the more you learn!


- Watch the “Pattern Introduction” video on Flipgrid.
- Answer the pattern introduction question on Flipgrid.
- Go to your “sit spot” and choose a few pattern nature journal ideas to answer.
- Read about the “Artists of the Day”.
- Pattern activity options—choose how many you would like to do!
 - * Human-Made Vs. Natural
 - * Symmetry in Leaves
 - * Tree Patterns
 - * Spirals Craft
 - * A Closer Look at Leaves
 - * Hidden Leaf Patterns
 - * Patterned Leaf Necklace
 - * Bonus: Nature Loom
- Answer the pattern reflection question on Flipgrid.
- You completed pattern day! Color in the pattern badge.

PATTERN

Hello Nature Explorers! Today we will be focusing on different patterns that we can find in nature. There are many patterns found in nature or that are human made! Some artists like to use patterns in their artwork to make things look similar in their whole piece. Today we are going to focus on patterns to observe, wonder, and explore nature.

Nature Journal of the Day

Take your nature journal to your “sit spot” and choose a few of the ideas to answer.

- Add to your observation list. When you look around, what patterns do you see? Write or draw these on your observation list in your nature journal.
- With a grownup’s permission, go to the Nature Art camp page on the Outdoor U Website. Click on the link so you are able to look at Dan Mondloch’s painting. What are all of the patterns that you see? Draw or write these in your nature journal. 
- Some animals have patterns on their fur that help them blend into their surroundings. For example, lots of frogs and toads in Minnesota have different patterns of dots and lines to help them blend in to the nature around them. Can you think of other animals that have patterns that help them blend in? If you had to blend into your surroundings, what kinds of patterns do you think you would wear? Draw or write about these in your nature journal.
- Pretend you are a tiny ant and get really close to the ground. Try to look for mini patterns up close on things! What do you think these patterns would be like if you were an ant? Draw or write about this and the tiny patterns you find in your nature journal.
- Try to make up a new pattern. Get creative and use your art supplies to create this in your nature journal!

Artists of the Day - Pattern

Name: MJ Bach

From: Saint Joseph, Minnesota

What kinds of art they make:

Nature journaling, watercolor paintings, and drawings

Fun fact: MJ worked for Saint John's Outdoor University!



Name: Christi Belcourt

From: Canada

Age: 54

What kinds of art they make:

Beads and paintings

Fun fact: Christi makes art that is part of her Native American culture!



Go to the camp resource page on the Outdoor U website to view artwork by MJ and Cristi. Be sure to ask a grownup for help!

Human-Made Vs. Natural

There are so many patterns outside. Things like tree branches or stripes on a bird are a few patterns you may see outside. There are also patterns that are made by humans. These could be fences and sidewalks or even the side of your home. You are going to try and find a few examples of both near your home.

Materials:

- Nature journal
- Something to write with
- Art supplies

Instructions:

1. Go outside near your home and bring your nature journal and something to write or draw with along with you.
2. Try to find a few patterns that you think were made by humans. Try to find a few patterns that you think are from nature. Write or draw these patterns in your nature journal.

Symmetry in Leaves

Symmetry is when one side of an object exactly mirrors the other. Did you know that MOST leaves have symmetry? Some do not, but most look identical from one side to the other. Both nature explorers and artists try to find symmetry either out in nature or in their artwork. You will use leaves to explore what symmetry is!

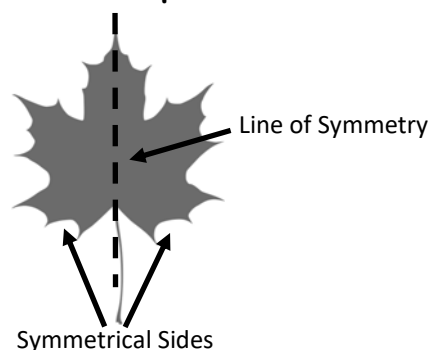
Materials:

- Leaves from different trees
- Piece of paper
- Art supplies
- Scissors

Instructions:

1. Go outside near your home and find some leaves. Try to choose leaves that have fallen on the ground or are on a branch that fell.
2. Bring the leaves back with you. Cut them in half and lay them on your piece of paper.
3. Draw a symmetrical outline of the leaf on the paper so the leaf looks whole again. Pay attention to details by adding in the little lines or veins on the inside of the leaf.
4. Lastly, add some color! Try to get the exact same shade or make a fun mismatched leaf!

Example of Symmetry:



Tree Patterns

Trees are made up of many patterns. They have patterns on their bark, their leaves or needles have patterns, and the tree as a whole is one big pattern! You are going to pick a tree near your home to draw its patterns!

Materials:

- Nature journal
- Something to draw with

Instructions:

1. Go outside near your home and bring your nature journal and something to draw with along with you.
2. Find a tree that you want to look at. Go up close to the tree so you can notice its many patterns! You can look at its bark, the leaves or needles, and its branches.
3. In your nature journal, draw these parts of the tree. Do you notice any patterns?

Spirals Craft

Spirals are just one of the patterns that are found out in nature! They are in more places than you think. Once you start looking for them, you will begin to see them everywhere!

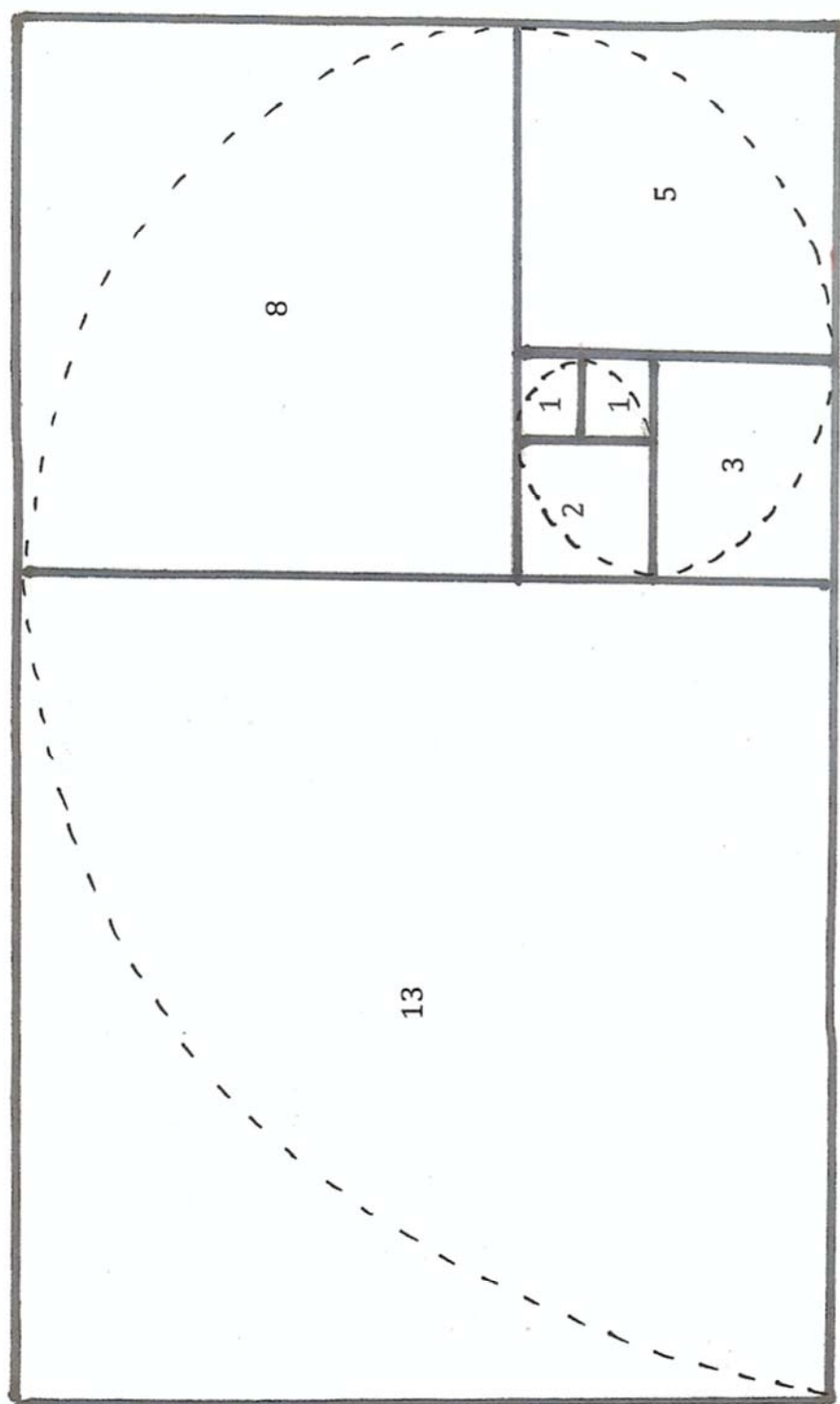
Materials:

- Fibonacci Spiral Sheet from *Swirl by Swirl: Spirals in Nature* by Joyce Sidman (on page 53)
- Scissors
- Art supplies
- String (optional)
- Glue/tape (optional)

Instructions:

1. Use your art supplies to color both sides of the spiral sheet. Do not worry about the lines. You can color wherever you like!
2. Carefully cut the big rectangle out from the paper. Then carefully cut along the dotted line. Ask a grownup if you need help.
3. Take your spiral outside. Use it to help you find natural spirals by holding it up to compare the shape.
4. If you would like, use glue or tape to put the string on your spiral. With this string you can then hang your spiral in your home!

FIBONACCI SPIRAL from *Swirl by Swirl: Spirals in Nature* by Joyce Sidman



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A Closer Look at Leaves

If you look really closely at leaves, you might see that they have lots of patterns inside of them. The large veins that you see help carry water and food to the leaves, and they also help them keep their shape. This activity will help you understand leaves better, and also help you practice looking at patterns in nature.

Materials:

- Crayons (without wrappers)
- Pieces of paper
- Flat surface
- Different types of leaves
- Watercolor paints (optional)

Instructions:

1. Go outside near your home and collect different types of leaves.
2. Put the leaves on a flat surface. Put your piece of paper over them.
3. Rub over your page with the side of the unwrapped crayon. You should be able to see the different patterns within the leaf appear.
4. If you want, you can paint over your crayon rubbings with watercolor. The paint should soak into the paper, but not into the crayon!

Hidden Leaf Patterns

The patterns in leaves are not always easy to see. Sometimes adding light can help us see them better. Today you will find the hidden patterns using a window and the sun!

Materials:

- Leaves from outside
- A sunny window
- Piece of paper or your nature journal
- Art supplies

Instructions:

1. Go outside near your home and collect different types of leaves.
2. Go inside and hold each individual leaf you found up to a sunny window.
3. The sun will shine through some parts of the leaves, letting you see hidden patterns that might otherwise be hard to see.
4. On your piece of paper or nature journal, trace the leaf you looked at then draw the hidden patterns you found when looking at them through the window.

Patterned Leaf Necklace

One way that we can tell the difference between types of trees is by their leaves. Did you know that each type of tree has a special leaf shape? In this activity, you will use different types of leaves to make a patterned necklace to wear.

Materials:

- 3 or 4 types of leaves
- String or yarn (cut 2 arm-lengths long)
- A small stick

Instructions:

1. Go outside near your home and collect 3 or 4 types of leaves. You will want about 4 or 5 of each type. While looking for leaves, be sure to find a small stick to use for a needle.
2. Bring your leaves back, lay them out in a pattern that repeats (for example: oak, maple, birch, oak, maple, birch...)
3. Tie the string on to your small stick and be sure to tie it tight. If you need help with this ask a grownup.
4. Gently string each leaf on to the string using the stick to make a small hole.
5. Once you have all the leaves on the yarn, untie the string from the stick and tie the two ends of the string together. Now you have a fun nature necklace to wear today!

Bonus: Nature Loom

A loom is something that artists use to make pieces of fabric or other works of art. They weave a material between the strings of the loom, and they end up with a beautiful piece of art. Today, you will get to make and play with your own nature loom!

Materials:

- Sticks/branches
- String or yarn
- Things from nature

Instructions:

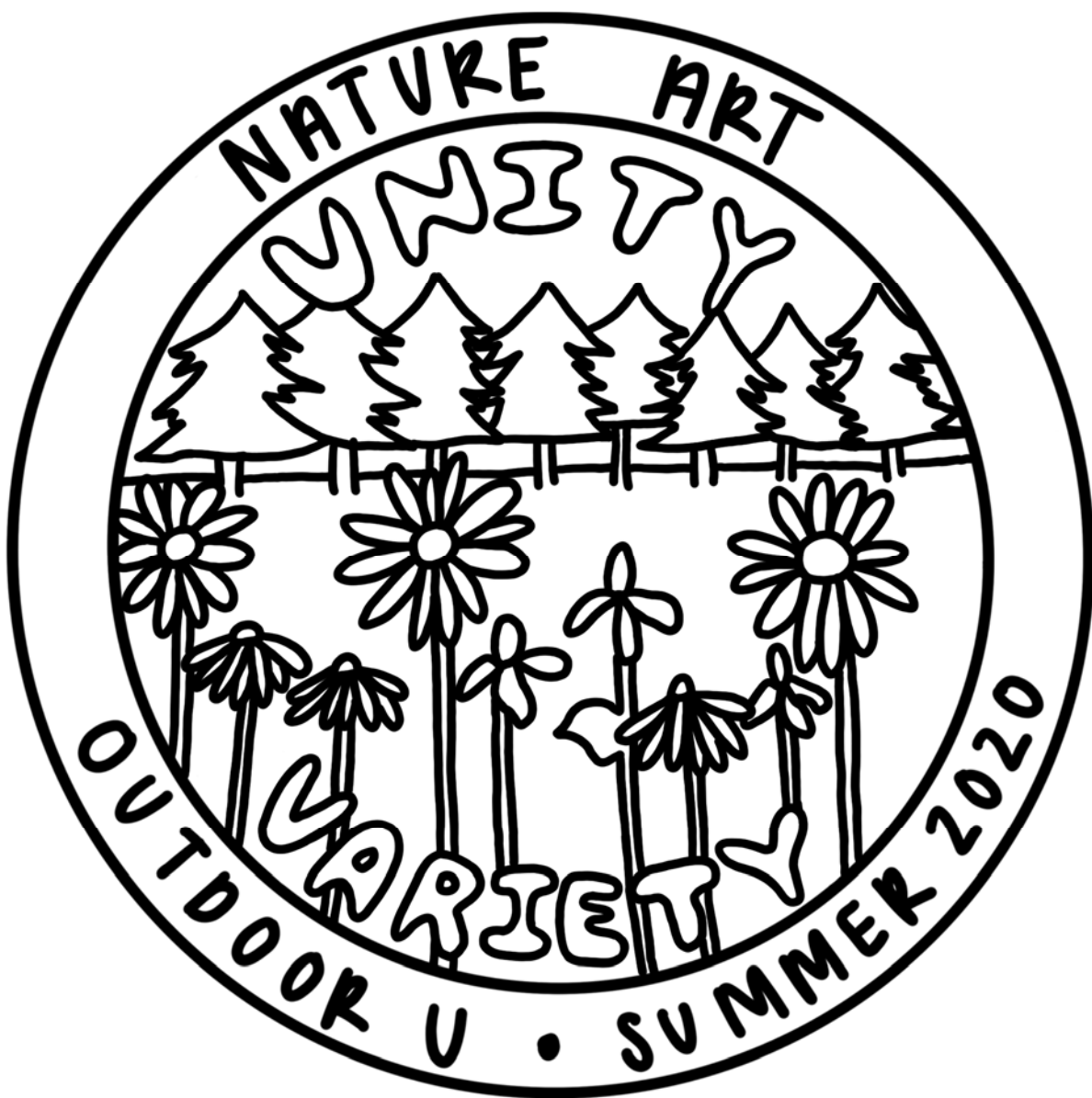
1. Ask a grownup to help you make a “frame” for your nature weaving. This should be a square or a triangle held together with strings, with lines of string looped around the frame.
2. Go outside near your home and collect different things from nature that you could use in your weaving.
3. Use your frame and thing from nature to try to weave together a work of art in a pattern.
4. If you want to, you can just stick 3 or 4 sticks vertically into the ground and use that as your loom instead.

Example:



From “Nature Looms” by Camp Kintail
<https://www.campkintail.ca/nature-loom/>

Nature Art At-Home Camp



Friday

Nature Art Daily Options

Friday - Unity/Variety

Use this list of options as a guide to help you decide what you want to do during the day. You can do as many or as few as you want but remember, the more you do the more you learn!


- Watch the “Unity/Variety Introduction” video on Flipgrid.
- Answer the unity/variety introduction question on Flipgrid.
- Go to your “sit spot” and choose a few unity/variety nature journal ideas to answer.
- Read about the “Artists of the Day”.
- Unity/Variety activity options—choose how many you would like to do!
 - * Leaf Collage Scene
 - * Leaf and Flower Pounding
 - * Window Drawings
 - * Nature Mandala
 - * Nature Diorama
 - * Stuffed Animal Hide and Seek
 - * Create Your Own Leaf Insect
- Answer the unity/variety reflection question on Flipgrid.
- You completed unity/variety day! Color in the unity/variety badge.
- Congratulations! You finished Nature Art Camp! You can now open the Camp Celebration Envelope and watch the “Celebration” video!

UNITY / VARIETY

Hello Nature Explorers! Today is the last day of camp! We will be putting together the four principles of art that we discussed earlier this week to learn about unity and variety. Nature and art are both made up of many different colors, textures, shapes, and patterns! By putting the four principles of art together we have unity and variety. Today we are going to use unity and variety to observe, wonder, and explore nature.

Nature Journal of the Day

Take your nature journal to your “sit spot” and choose a few of the ideas to answer.

- Find a flower to take a closer look at near your “sit spot.” Notice how that flower is made up of different colors. Each part of the flower even has a different shape, texture, and pattern! Use your art supplies to draw this flower in your nature journal. Write the different colors, shapes, textures, and patterns that you see.
- Add to your observation list. Take a closer look at the nature around you and notice how there are many different colors, textures, shapes, and patterns. All of these things help to create nature’s beauty. Write or draw about these similarities and differences in your nature journal.
- Using your art supplies, draw your very own plant or animal in your nature journal. Try to use different colors, shapes, textures, and patterns!
- With a grownup’s permission, go to the Nature Art camp page on the Outdoor U Website. Click on the link so you are able to look at Dan Mondloch’s painting. Notice how all of the different colors, textures, shapes, and patterns help to form the painting. Write your observations in your nature journal. 
- Many writers use the natural world and their observations to help them write. Using your observations from the week, write a poem or a short story in your nature journal.
- Collect different things from nature around you. Using tape or glue put these things on the same page in your nature journal, making a collage. After you have done this write about the different colors, shapes, textures, and patterns that are in your collage.

Artists of the Day - Unity/Variety

Name: Laura Ruprecht

From: Saint Cloud, Minnesota

What kind of art they make:

Stained glass mosaics

Fun FaCt: Laura's tip for young artists is to "Put the phones down and take a walk outside and take in nature's beauty."



Name: Andy Goldsworthy

From: England

Age: 63

What kind of art they make:

Outdoor sculptures

Fun faCt: Andy likes to leave his sculptures up for a long time.



Go to the camp resource page on the Outdoor U website to view artwork by Laura and Andy. Be sure to ask a grownup for help!

Artists of the Day - Unity/Variety

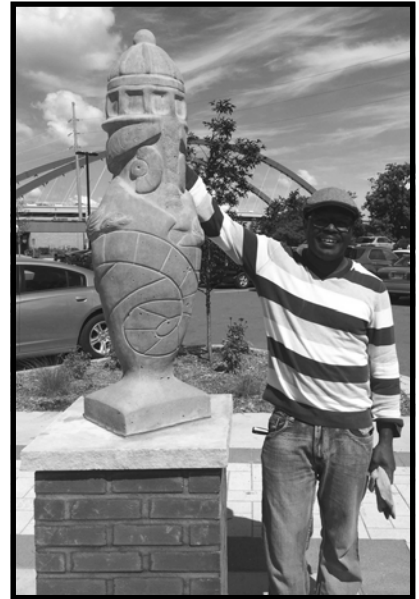
Name: Willicey Tynes

From: The Bahamas

What kinds of art they make:

Paintings, sculptures, and murals

Fun FaCt: One of Willicey's sculptures is underwater in the Coral Reef Sculpture Garden in The Bahamas!



Name: Sam Johnson

From: The Red River Valley Region

What kind of art they make:

Pottery

Fun faCt: Sam teaches pottery at CSBSJU!



Go to the camp resource page on the Outdoor U website to view artwork by Willicey and Sam. Be sure to ask a grownup for help!

Leaf Collage Scene

This activity will allow you to take leaves and look at them differently. You will be using the leaves and grasses you find in nature to make a picture.

Materials:

- Leaves from outside
- Glue
- Piece of paper, cardboard, or cardstock
- Art supplies

Instructions:

1. Go outside near your home. Collect as many leaves as you can find. Try to find leaves with different textures and shapes.
2. Lay out all of the leaves on a table. Try to put leaves together to make shapes, animals, or other objects. (For example could you use two or three leaves to form a bird.)
3. Glue what you created onto your paper. Think about where you are placing them. Is there a story you are trying to tell? How can you use color, texture, shape, and patterns?
4. Use your art supplies to add details such as eyes, legs, a beak, or whatever is still missing.
5. Use other leaves and pieces to add some details like grass or plants.

Leaf and Flower Pounding



When leaves and flowers are pounded, they leave some of their natural dye behind. You will get to try making a print by pounding leaves and flowers.

Materials:

- Newspaper or cardboard
- Fresh leaves and flowers
- Piece of paper
- Hammer, mallet, or flat rock

Instructions:

1. Cover your work area with a thick pile of cardboard or newspaper. Put a piece of paper on your work area.
2. Go outside near your home and try to find a variety of leaves and flowers.
3. Arrange your leaves and flowers on your piece of paper in any way you like! Try to focus on creating unity with a variety of different plants.
4. Cover your design with another piece of paper. With a help of a grownup, gently hammer the paper.
5. Carefully pull apart the paper and remove the plant parts to see what print your leaves and flowers left!

Window Drawings

Pictures can be put in frames and windows have frames too! Use the frame of your window as a frame for your piece of art.

Materials:

- Window with a view outside
- Piece of paper
- Art supplies

Instructions:

1. Find a window in your house with a good view outside.
2. On your piece of paper, draw the frame of your window.
3. Use your art supplies to draw what you see out your window.

Nature Mandala

Mandalas are a form of art from Asia that have been around since ancient times. They represent different parts of the Universe and are used by some groups of people in meditation. Mandalas are usually a circle with repeating colors, textures, and patterns.

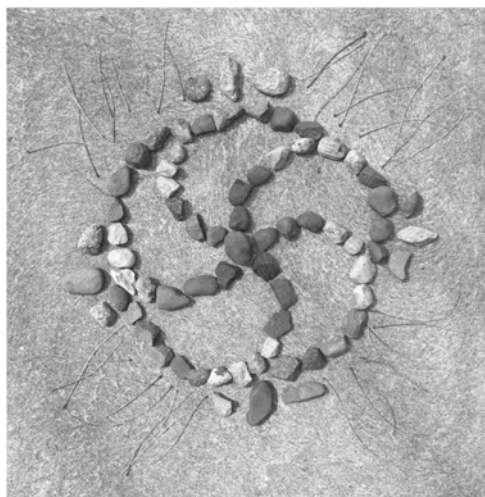
Materials:

- Things from nature of all colors, textures, shapes, and patterns

Instructions:

1. Go outside near your home. Collect as many things from nature as you can. You might want to collect a few of the same type of thing.
2. Arrange your things from nature in the shape of a circle in a mandala pattern.
3. Play around with it and get creative! You can even make more than one if you want.
4. If you would like, you could glue it on a piece of paper or in your nature journal. You can even draw your mandala in your nature journal.

Example:



Nature Diorama

Dioramas are 3D scenes. In this activity, you will make a 3D nature scene using things you find outside!

Materials:

- A shoe box or other type of box
- Things from nature
- Things from your recycling bin or other craft materials (optional)
- Art supplies

Instructions:

1. Go outside near your home and collect items that can be used to make your nature diorama. Try to make sure you are collecting things with different colors, textures, shapes, and patterns!
2. Create a scene inside your box using these materials. This could be a scene from your favorite place, the area around your home, or an imagined landscape. Get creative!

Stuffed Animal Hide and Seek

Have you ever noticed all the different colors, shapes, and patterns that animals are? Sometimes, certain patterns or colors help animals blend into their surroundings. This is called camouflage.

You will get to try practicing camouflage with your own stuffed animals!

Materials:

- 5 to 10 stuffed animals or figurines you can take outside

Instructions:

1. Go outside near your home and bring your stuffed animals with you.
2. Try to hide the stuffed animals so they blend in to their surroundings. Maybe it matches a color, pattern, texture, or shape in nature.
3. Have your family stand in one spot and try to spot all your stuffed animals. How well did you camouflage them?

Create Your Own Leaf Insect

Sculptors are a type of artist that create sculptures. Sculptures are 3D pieces of art out of clay, stone, wood, or other materials! In this activity you will be creating your own sculpture of an insect out of things from nature.

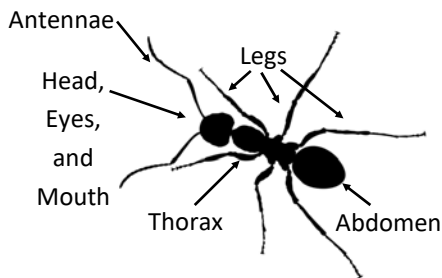
Materials:

- Things from nature like leaves, sticks, nut shells, etc.
- Glue
- Paper (optional)
- Art supplies (optional)

Instructions:

1. Go outside near your home and collect things from nature that can be used to create your insect.
2. Start to assemble your insect! You can make it look however you would like, but try to include all the parts of an insect. (See below for more help.)
3. Feel free to use paper and art supplies to make small details such as eyes.
4. Glue everything together! Don't forget to give it a name!

Parts of an Insect:



All insects have:

- 3 body parts: head, thorax, and abdomen
- Eyes and a mouth part
- Antennae
- 6 legs

Some insects also have wings! You can add wings if you like, but make sure to add all of the other body parts to your insect!