

Wax Rubbing & Watercolour Resist Printing

A fun activity using leaves and other textured materials for wax rubbing and wax resist painting. As well as making prints, there are many extension activities to enjoy which encourage observation skills and sensory immersion in the outdoors e.g., collecting leaves in summer and autumn and pressing them for winter and spring use. The prints can be used to decorate greetings cards, gift tags, seed envelopes or display as wall art. This activity can be useful in supporting people with low dexterity to develop fine motor skills and hand-eye co-ordination.



Wax resist leaf print



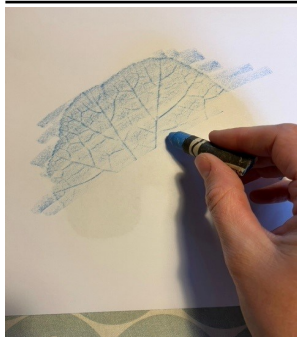
Leaves

What you will need:

Leaves—choose different shapes and sizes, ones with prominent veins and features work best
Thin drawing paper
Wax crayons
Poster paint or watercolour paint
Paintbrushes
Water
Scissors, glue, card or thick paper to display print



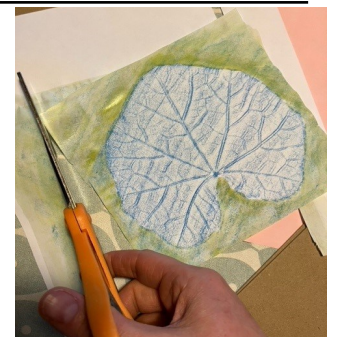
Ingredients



Step 1 Wax rubbing



Step 2 Painting



Step 3 Cutting out

Step 1 Place the leaf under the paper. Using a wax crayon lightly rub the crayon across the paper picking up the outline of the leaf shape and the veins and features of the leaf. Try to use a flat rather than pointy part of the crayon. Remove the leaf. (If you plan to use the leaves several times or not, on the day you collect them, it can be worth pressing them as you can then use them many times).

Step 2 Using well diluted poster paint or watercolours, paint over the wax rubbing and around the leaf shape. You'll see that the paint rolls off the wax and settles on the unwaxed paper. Ensure lots of time and materials to experiment with the rubbing and painting techniques, and colour combinations.

Step 3 Allow the print to dry then trim to suit. Use to decorate cards, tags, decoupage, collage, wall art!