



HEIDE LEARNING MAKING A NATURE MOBILE

HEIDE
MUSEUM
OF MODERN
ART

Materials

- Leaves (collect leaves from your garden or your local park. Look for different shapes and textures, collect about 15 or more leaves)
- Twigs/ small branches (collect a few)
- Acrylic paint (3 to 4 colours)
- Small bowls for the paint
- Paint brushes (wide or thick brushes)
- Thick white paper (A4 size for printing)
- Black paper (thick)
- Scissors
- Beads, magic clay or pre-made air dry clay beads
- Coloured wool or embroidery thread
- Hole puncher
- Newsprint or newspaper

Instructions

1. Set up your work area with a work station for each paint colour. Each work station should have a small bowl of paint, brushes and two sheets of newsprint next to each other. One sheet for painting the leaves on and the other to print the leaves.



2. Choose two or three different leaves to print in each colour.

3. Place the leaves on the newsprint and paint each leaf, make sure to cover the entire leaf with a good layer of paint but not too much!



4. Place your painted leaves onto the clean sheet of newsprint with the painted side facing up. Take your A4 paper and place on top of the leaves.

5. Using the palm of your hand firmly rub over the leaves making sure all parts of the leaf have been firmly and evenly pressed.



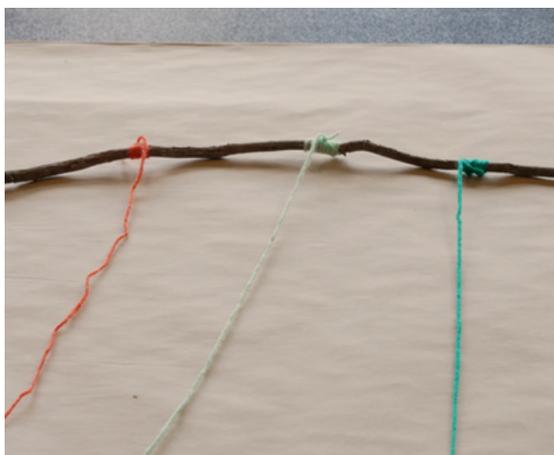
6. Carefully peel the leaves from the paper and see the beautiful printed leaf patterns.



7. Repeat the last five steps for each colour you have chosen, using different leaves every time.

8. Once the leaf prints are dry, cut them out and glue onto thick black paper. Then cut each leaf out leaving a black border around the printed leaf.





9. Wrap two or three strands of coloured wool or embroidery thread of your choice around the twig – you may want to wrap each coloured piece of wool around several times adding a bit of contrasting colour to your mobile.

10. On a table lay out your mobile out so you can finalise your design and place your leaves where you would like them to be attached to the mobile. Then using the hole punch place a hole in the top and bottom of each printed leaf, except for the leaves at the bottom of the mobile, these only need a hole at the top.



11. Thread the wool through the top hole of the printed leaf, threading front through to the back then through the bottom hole from the back through to the front.

12. You may wish to add beads, air dried beads or magic clay in between each printed leaf as you thread them on. Just remember to knot the wool under the beads, so they don't slip down.



13. Continue to thread your printed leaves and beads onto the mobile, remember to make a good knot on the last leaf that you thread on, so everything stays in place. Once completed tie a loop to your twig so you can hang it up and admire your beautiful nature mobile.

