

Just Leaf It

Subject: Natural Sciences- Plants and Art

Grade Level: Pre-K to 2nd Grade

Objectives:

Students will be able to...

- 1) Compare and contrast leaves from different plants by color, shape, texture, and size
- 2) Identify leaf veins on a leaf
- 3) Create a leaf rubbing artwork

Materials:

- Different leaves from around your neighborhood, yard, a park, or from planters in your home
- Bag
- Crayons with the paper wrapper peeled off
- Paper

Vocabulary:

Texture- how a surface looks or feels

Leaf Veins- the lines on the underside of a leaf that carry food and water

Activity

Directions:

1. Go for a walk around your yard, neighborhood, park, or home, collecting leaves in a bag. Gather one leaf from each plant that you see.
2. At home, lay your leaves out on a table and compare and contrast them by **texture**, shape, color, and size. Make observations about the leaves, such as...
 - a. This leaf is smooth
 - b. This leaf looks heart-shaped
 - c. This leaf is a darker green than that leaf
 - d. This leaf is smaller than that leaf
3. Turn the leaves over and look at the lines on them. These are the **leaf veins** that carry water and nutrients/food.
4. Place a leaf in front of you with the veins facing up.
5. Place a piece of paper over the leaf.
6. Hold your paper down over the leaf, and using a crayon on its side, rub over the leaf.
7. Repeat steps 4-6 with other leaves to create a leaf art piece.