



Wildwood Days ~ Environmental art activities

Environmental art works well for all ages and can be done at any time of year. If there's something you particularly want to try that's not listed then please ask. We provide all the materials and show some examples to get the children inspired.

Natural collage (as a group or individually) – we provide a range of natural materials (leaves, pebbles, sticks, cones, flowers, berries, etc.) and show some examples of natural collage (Andy Goldsworthy and others). Children can then work together, or individually, to create a pattern, animal or whatever they think of. For younger children we can do a string outline for them to fill with leaves.



Clay creations (tree faces, creatures or tiles) – for tree faces each child is given a lump of clay which is then stuck to a tree and used to create a face (with natural materials). Alternatively, they could make a little clay creature to take away with them, or a clay tile with impressions of natural objects.

Pebble creatures – each child can paint and decorate (with googly eyes) a pebble to take home. We use acrylic paint so these can be kept outdoors. They could be animals, monsters, trolls or just a pattern.

Natural crown – (this is usually better in summer if you want lots of flowers but can be done at any time of year). For younger children we provide a card crown with double sided tape round it so that they can stick on leaves and flowers in a pattern. This could also be a bracelet. For older children we can do a willow frame that the flowers and greenery have to be coiled around.

Natural dyes and painting – children help to create some natural paints using the pestle and mortar and things collected from around the site (leaves, berries, mud, charcoal). They then paint onto fabric (usually squares of cotton). These could be individual flags to take home, or made into bunting

Hapa Zome – this is the Japanese art of beating leaves or petals into fabric. A leaf is placed under some cotton and then gently hammered so the impression of the leaf comes through the cloth. Great fun and you can get some beautiful effects.



Tree cookies – we help the children to saw a thin slice of wood off a branch and drill a hole through the top (using a bow saw, then a palm drill or hand drill. All tool use is done under 1-2-1 supervision). They can then decorate the slice with pens and hang it on a string to create a medallion.



God's eye weave – brightly coloured wool is wound around a stick cross to create an eye-catching decoration. Another nice take-home activity. Recommended for ages 6 and up.