

Finding Art in Nature

Suitable for Years 3-6, March to November

Using the arboretum for inspiration, this programme encourages the students to become artists for the day. They will find out how the arboretum's creator used trees rather than paint to create a perfect picture. The students will explore the contrasts of the natural world and focus their attention on the colours, patterns, textures and forms found in our trees.

Key Concepts

Pattern, colour, texture, shape, use of natural materials.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the programme, students should be able to:

- Identify colours, textures and patterns in natural materials.
- Work to create an individual piece of artwork using natural materials.
- Communicate reasons, thoughts, observations and feelings.

Before you come

Q What do you find beautiful in nature?

Programme Outline

Learning Objectives	Activity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduces the arboretum as artistic inspiration • Introduces colour, shape and texture in the arboretum. 	<p><i>Natural Gallery</i> An introduction to natural arts looking at the arboretum as though looking at an interesting picture, highlighting differences in colours, textures and shapes.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Looking at colour, shades and natural materials. 	<p><i>Colour palettes</i> Individually, children search for a wide range of colours looking at the natural materials around them.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Looking at patterns found in the natural world. • Describe patterns 	<p><i>Pattern Search</i> Children look out for a variety of natural patterns on bark of trees. A matching activity.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Looking at texture and natural materials. 	<p><i>A dozen touches</i> In small groups children search for items that match texture opposites before sharing their finds with another group.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To make observations of colour, texture and pattern. To express personal opinion. 	<p><i>Camera</i> Children use each others eyes as a “camera” to look at the arboretum from a fresh perspective.</p>

Self-guided trails

To complement this half-day programme, we recommend our [Art Activity Pack](#) and [Art Scavenger Hunt](#). This can be viewed at www.forestry.gov.uk/westonbirt-education

National Curriculum links

- Develop creativity and experimentation and use of different materials
- Improve the mastery of art and design techniques with a range of materials
- Learn about great artists and designers