



Natural Art

Match the Colours

Put the children into groups and give a set of colours to each group. Ask the children to look for natural things from the forest that match their colours as closely as possible. It may not be the whole thing but just a very small part of it that has the same colour. Get the groups to show each other what they have found. They will need to look closely as there are many shades of green and brown in the forest!

Frame It!

In your backpack are some photo frames. In small groups ask the children to find and frame a forest scene. They can zoom in and hold the frame close to an object or look through to capture a great forest landscape. Now let them have a look at what the others in your group have framed.

If you have more time, you can make your own viewing frames by tying four sticks together with the string provided.

Artcards

Give each child an artcard. Remove the plastic strip from the double sided tape on the card to reveal the sticky surface. Please do not drop the plastic on the forest floor. Encourage the children to walk around and collect some small natural materials, such as parts of coloured leaves, small feathers and grass seeds and stick them on to the card to decorate it. How creative can they be? Use the pencils provided to write the children's names on the back of their cards.

Forest Floor Art

Art inspired by natural artist **Andy Goldsworthy** is great for getting the children to look closely at their environment and the things that can be found in it. Look at the photos of his work. Discuss with the children how you think he made the sculptures – he only uses natural materials and all his work is temporary and returns to nature. There are also some photos of art made by children visiting our woodlands.

In small groups, use natural materials to make amazing woodland floor pictures to create a forest gallery! Do not pick anything (bracken can cut fingers and bramble can prickle..) but use only what you find lying on the ground. Ask the group to think about what they could use to make their pictures. Will they make a pattern, or a forest animal, or something else? Do they want to frame their art? Collecting small straight twigs to frame finished artwork looks great. Before starting, find an area of forest floor and clear away the leaf litter so that you have a good clear flat surface to work on.

Forest Mobile

Search for natural materials from the forest such as leaves, pine needles, cones and seeds. When you have finished collecting, tie them along a piece of string and attach the string to a stick. You can make individual ones, a group mobile or tie all the strings from the class on a bigger stick to make a class mobile. Take them back to school to remind you of your visit.