Outdoor Art Creator
Brownies (2nd & 3rd Grade)

Using this activity sheet and the video, learn all about the ways nature can give you great ideas for art! Explore the outdoors and use what you see to make some fun art projects!

Step 1: Find art ideas outdoors!

What you’ll need
- A paper towel roll for spying
- An adult to help you walk around your neighborhood/ a park

Activity
Take a nature detective walk through your neighborhood, backyard, or local park. Look through the paper towel tube to focus on things near and far away. Spot at least three things from the list below. Just observe and make a mark:

☐ An animal
☐ A plant not colored green
☐ A tree with flowers
☐ An insect
☐ A bird (do you know what kind it is?)
☐ A fallen leaf with a pattern you like
☐ A rock with an unusual shape
☐ A bush as tall as you are
☐ A pinecone or acorn
☐ Colored moss growing on a rock or tree
☐ Something else fun you find, write it below!
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Step 2: Make Something!

What You’ll Need

- Natural things you found on the ground
  - Leaves
  - Bark
  - Grass clippings
  - Acorn
- Paper - not too thick
- Something to rub on the leaf
  - Crayons
  - Colored pencils
  - Markers

Activity
Watch the video and make a leaf rubbing with the natural things you picked up.

Step 3: Dance or make music outdoors

What You’ll Need

- Yarn
- Scissors
- Paint

An Assortment of

- Natural items
  - Sticks
  - Rocks
  - Acorns
- Recycled materials
  - Aluminum Can
  - Soup can
  - Plastic bottle
  - Bottle caps

Activity
Watch the video and create your own windchime! Hang your items together so they make fun sounds when they bop up against each other.
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Step 4: Be a Nature Photographer

What You’ll Need
- Camera, phone, tablet, or some other way to take a picture

Activity
Pick something tiny in nature- it could be an ant in a garden or a butterfly in your backyard. Pretend to shrink yourself and take pictures with a camera or smartphone as if you were that bug and zero in on a blade of grass or looking down at a flower. Find the perspective, or view of the world, from your bug. Watch the video for some examples.

If you cannot go outside, think about where a bug can explore inside your house.

Step 5: Design with Nature

What You’ll Need
- This paper
- Coloring pieces
  - Pencils
  - Crayons
  - Markers

Activity
Watch the video and see how Rocky creates her garden in her small backyard space. Watch how she uses recycled materials and makes her plants into art pieces. Now draw a garden with a theme. Think about color, shapes, and which plants you would want to plant. Example: plant seeds in the shape of your name and see what grows!