



# LEAF RUBBINGS



Learn about leaves while making beautiful artwork!

## MATERIALS:

- ▶ White or colored construction paper
- ▶ Crayons or oil pastels with the paper wrapper peeled off
- ▶ A variety of fresh leaves

**TIME:** 30 mins - 1 hour

**AGE:** Fun for all ages!



## INSTRUCTIONS:

1

Go on a walk through your neighborhood or backyard and collect leaves in a variety of shapes and sizes. Try to pick up leaves that have recently fallen and look fresh. Make sure the leaves are dry!

2

Back at home, arrange the leaves on piece of plain paper in a pattern that you like.

3

Carefully place another piece of paper directly on top of the leaves, making sure they don't move around underneath it.

4

Using the side of a crayon, gently color over the top sheet of paper, focusing on the areas where the leaves are located underneath.



5

The shape of the leaves will appear on the top sheet of paper! Repeat this process and see what fun art projects you can make. Then, take a look at page two to learn a little bit more about them!



1

*Canopy plants and cares for trees where people need them the most.*

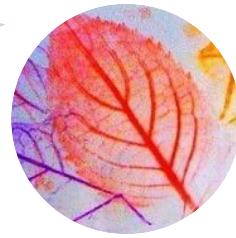
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## DID YOU NOTICE?

A pattern of dark lines should stand out on your leaf rubbing. These lines show the leaf's **veins**.

Humans also have veins! A person's veins and arteries transport blood throughout the body.

A leaf's veins are similar to a human's, and have two main functions. They give the leaf a stronger structure, and transport water, minerals, and food energy throughout the plant.



## WHAT LEAVES DID YOU USE?

The shape of your leaf rubbing can tell you what kind of tree your leaf came from. Below are a few common leaves and their leaf rubbings. Do you recognize any?

Maple



Oak



Beech



Ginkgo



## PROJECT IDEAS:

Once you've mastered leaf rubbings, try using them to make:

- ▶ Greeting cards
- ▶ Bookmarks
- ▶ Laminated placemats
- ▶ Decorative wall art

