

Art in Nature

Key Stage 1 & 2

This learning resource is designed to inspire inquisitive minds by getting out in the fresh air and exploring the visual beauty in our local, natural habitats. It is based on a session we deliver at Chatsworth and we have revised it to encourage you to go on a walk or visit the park or woodland, but if you can't access these, then your garden, or even fresh fruit or vegetables in your kitchen will do!

What you will do: Using the plants and trees found in your garden, local park, allotment or woodland, you will connect with nature, using your senses and feelings while you explore natural and organic form. You will be introduced to a range of looking and drawing techniques through creative activities, observing differences and similarities in shape, texture, colour and detail. You will find references to artists on the activity sheets. Their artwork features in the Chatsworth Garden and you can search for examples of their work online.

What you will use: seasonal plants, trees, flowers or fresh fruit and vegetables found in your garden, kitchen or in a local park.

What you will need Paper (this can be post-its, old envelopes, wrapping paper) or a sketchbook, dry drawing materials such as pencils, crayons, felt pens, charcoal or pastels.

Learning Outcomes You will:

- **Practice** and **improve** drawing skills by studying different plants and flowers
- **Develop** confidence in describing their own artwork and the work of artist's
- **Identify** and **record** elements of at least three plants found during the activity

Art in Nature Activity Sheet 1

Let's start with looking skills – to practice how to draw, we need to practice the importance of looking

Why should we practice looking? It helps us to:

- Draw what we see with accuracy
- Understand the object
- See the object in 3D
- Notice detail and texture
- Improve our hand-eye coordination

How can we look at things we want to draw?

Grab a piece of fruit or vegetable from the kitchen and use the spaces below to draw the same object using the different looking techniques. Search for **Elisabeth Frink** online to find out more about how she looks at the objects she draws and sculpts.



Draw a small section

Zoom in & look closely



Touch and explore

Close your eyes - draw what you feel

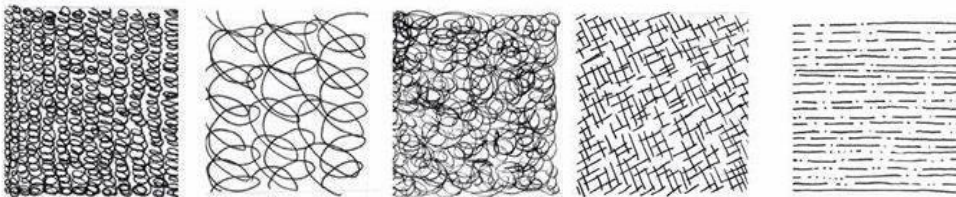


Investigate the object

Draw the inside

Now let's look at our drawing tools

How many different ways can you use each tool? What kind of marks can you make on the page? Here are a few examples to help you get started. Look up **David Nash** – he makes marks inspired by nature in his sculptures.



Art in Nature Activity Sheet 2

Life cycle of a plant – can you find & draw the following?



Shoot



Leaf



Bud



Flower

Take your hand for a walk

Use any drawing tool you like and draw the lines and marks you can see on a tree. This could be the bark on the tree trunk or shapes of branches. How can you use the drawing tool to show thickness, texture and shape? Look up the artist **Richard Long**, who takes long walks to create drawings in the landscape.

Beauty in nature

Using colour, draw something you can see that is beautiful. Why do you think it is beautiful? Can you write some words [adjectives] next to your drawing to describe these thoughts?



Here is some useful information for teachers and parents who would like to know how these activities link to the National Curriculum

Here are the curriculum links these activities cover:

Art & Design	English	PSHE	Science
To improve mastery of art and design techniques, including <i>drawing</i> , painting and <i>sculpting</i> with a range of materials	Continual development of pupils' confidence and competence in spoken language and listening skills	Recognise the importance of respecting and protecting the environment	Observing and comparing the life cycles of plants in their local environment, asking pertinent questions and suggesting reasons for similarities and differences
Develop techniques, including the control and use of materials, with creativity , experimentation and an increasing awareness of different kinds of art, craft and design	Engage in discussion, confidently voice opinions and questions to show understanding	Build self- esteem by sharing opinions and explaining views on the artwork	
		Develop critical thinking skills and take part in discussion	
Evaluate, analyse and discuss artwork . Research Elisabeth Frink, David Nash and Richard Long		Build confidence and resilience in learning outside of the classroom	