

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!

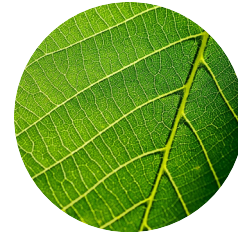
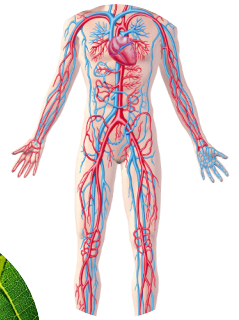


DID YOU NOTICE?

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

