

Outdoor Art Projects

Patterns using natural objects

Explore the intricate art works created by outdoor artist **James Brunt**:

<http://www.jamesbruntartist.co.uk/>

Here are some examples:



Have a closer look:

Can you see how the patterns have been created?

What materials has the artist used?

Can you describe the shapes, colours and patterns you can see?

Which patterns do you like best? Why?

Have a go:

Could you create your own natural pattern in your garden?

What materials could you use? Where will you create your pattern?

What shapes and colours will you include? Try sketching a plan before you start.

Photography

Walk around your garden or park. What objects or views catch your eye? Can you see any interesting colours, shadows, textures or shapes? Experiment with your camera or phone:



Try photographing the same area from different angles and distances. You can do this by walking around the area and taking pictures from different levels.

You can also try crouching or lying down:





Or looking up further:



Look for interesting shadows or reflections:



Try taking photos in different directions so that the Sun is shining from different angles (remember: you must never look at the Sun with your eyes or through a camera lens):



Take your time and try moving the camera slightly until you are happy with the picture.

When you are back inside, go through your photos to find the ones that interest you the most. Which of your photos are particularly successful? Why? What will you try next time you take your camera out?

Shadow Art

You will need to do this activity on a sunny day.

- Find some objects with interesting shapes. Plastic animals or dinosaurs are ideal.
- Stand them on the ground or table so that their shadows fall on your paper or cardboard. Draw around the edge of the shadows.
- You can then draw in details on your animals and add a background.
- Try doing this activity at different times of the day. How do the shadows change? Why do you think this is?



You might also find interesting shadows around your garden to use:



Other Ideas:

Leaf and bark rubbing

You will need: colouring pencils or crayons and paper.

- Place your paper onto the underside of an interesting leaf or the bark of a tree.
- Rub your crayon or colouring pencil over the area covering the textured surface until the patterns appear on your paper.
- It's best to use the side of your crayon or pencil rather than the pointed tip.
- Use different colours and textures to create interesting effects.
- Don't press too hard as this might make a hole in your paper!



Sketching

You will need: a pencil, paper and something to press on.

- Walk around your garden slowly so that you can see it from all angles.
- Look closely at each feature to find interesting shapes, colours and patterns.
- Choose an area or object to sketch and make yourself comfortable.
- Use your pencil lightly at first and remember to keep looking at the area you are drawing.
- Colour your picture if you would like to.