

ACTIVITY IDEAS

HAVE A GROW! TRIO TYFU!



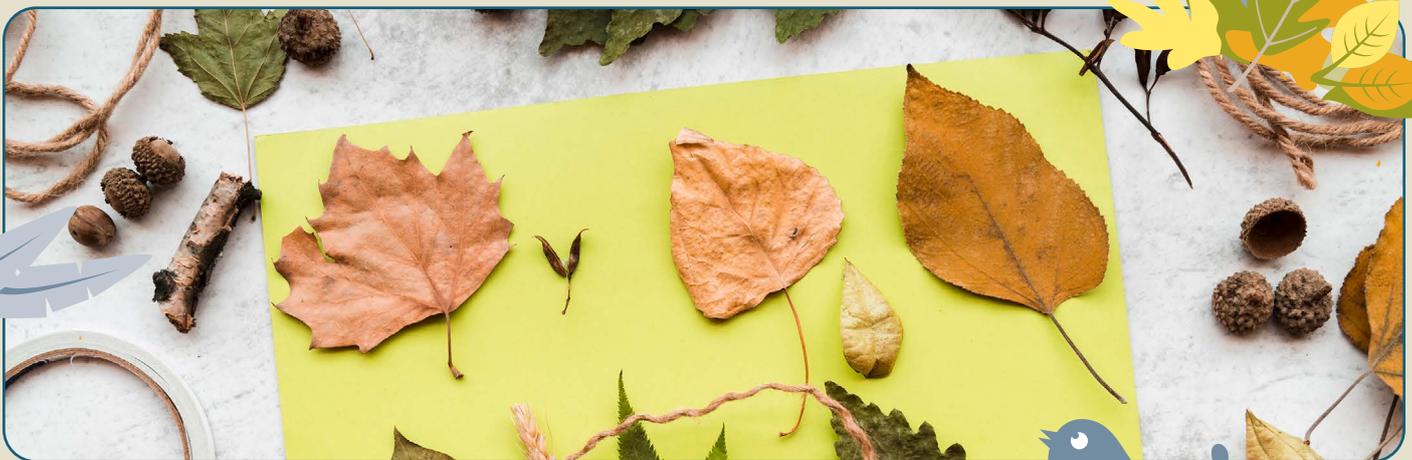
Flower and Plant Crowns

What you'll need:

- Strips of thin coloured cardboard about 60cm long and 10cm wide – you'll get 4 out of an A2 sheet.
- Double sided sticky tape.

How to do it:

- Put a strip of double sided sticky tape right along each cardboard strip. It's best to prepare them in advance.
- Just before use peel the cover off the tape and fit to size on the child's head. Kids (and adults!) can explore the garden to find plants, leaves, and grasses to decorate their crowns. Just make sure an adult tags along to help with picking and you might want to give some guidance about what not to pick!
- When you do your risk assessment for this activity consider if you have any poisonous plants like Monkshood or Foxglove - or plants with irritant sap like Hogweed.



Clay Faces

What you'll need:

- A bag of clay (ensure it's free of plastic, as many air-drying clays contain it)

How to do it:

- Give each person a ball of clay - encourage them to create faces on tree trunks using natural materials they find around them to enhance their creations and to create the features of their face.
- Have some fun creating your own face to inspire them
- Everyone will also enjoy hunting for the faces around the garden!



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Seed Planting

What you'll need:

- Pots or recycled containers
- Compost
- Easy to handle seeds – nasturtiums, calendula, dwarf peas and dwarf french beans are good
- Labels and pencils – craft lolly sticks are good
- Printed instructions for looking after them at home

How to do it:

- Demonstrate how to plant the seeds, write a label, and send them home with instructions on how to care for their plants at home



Seed Animals

What you'll need:

- A table
- Clay – again – check that it doesn't have any acrylic fibres
- Peat free sifted fine compost
- Seeds – mixed salad leaves, wild flower seeds, nasturtiums or calendula work well

How to do it:

- Give each person a pinch of seeds, a ball of clay and a pinch of compost
- Roll your clay into a ball and then flatten it
- Put a pinch of seeds and compost in the middle and close the clay up around it and make it into a ball again
- Use more clay to shape into an animal if wished
- Let it dry on a table with the rest of the menagerie
- When it's time to go home wrap with greaseproof paper and tape
- Give instructions to use your seed animal in a pot outside or garden bed – never throw seed bombs in wild areas
- As the clay weathers the seeds will be released and germinate in situ



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Tiny Treasure Hunt

What you'll need:

- Empty matchboxes
- Magnifying glasses if you have them

How to do it:

- Give each child a matchbox and encourage them to search for tiny treasures to fill it – such as feathers, snail shells, stones, lichen and leaves

Colour Treasure Hunt



What you'll need:

- Printed colour charts
https://treetoolsforschools.org.uk/activities/pdfs/pdf_colour_bingo.pdf

How to do it:

- Give out the 'colour bingo' sheets and encourage children to head into the garden to match plants, flowers, and insects to each colour

A few more ideas



- If you have a pizza oven making pizza using some herby toppings from the garden - get people to make their own mini pizza and a volunteer/staff member oversees the use of the pizza oven
- Think of a task that really needs doing and assign a volunteer coordinator to manage people - there will be some people who come along willing to get their hands dirty and why not take advantage of that
- Simple green wood working - making a wand or a dibber for example with a shave horse
- Making simple plant supports out of hazel/willow - either for use in the garden or to take home
- Painting signs/plant labels for the garden - give a list of signs/labels you need and leave the materials on a table - ask people to cross out the ones that have been done

