



Signs of Spring

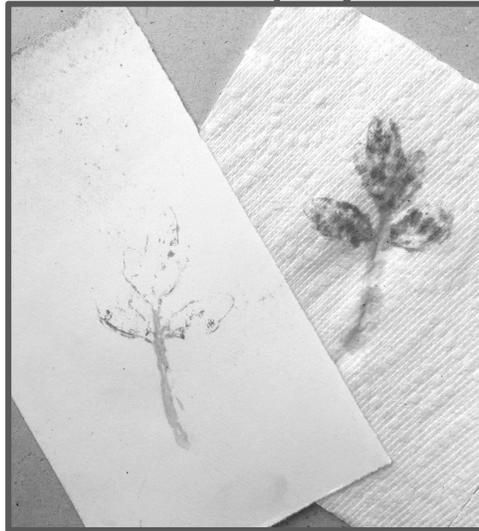
Create a plant stamp using leaves you collected on your walk and materials found in your home. This fast and fun activity is suitable for students of all ages.

Materials

- Green leaves (thick, soft leaves work best)
- Paper (any type)
- Hammer or heavy object with a smooth surface (like a can of soup)

Instructions

1. Fold your paper in half, then unfold and lay flat.
2. Arrange leaves on one half of the paper, laying them as flat as possible (it's ok if they're not perfectly flat).
3. Fold paper over the the leaves and press flat.
4. Use your hammer or heavy object to gently but firmly hit the leaves.
5. Unfold paper to check your leaves. The green color should begin to transfer to both sides of the paper. If you can't see the color, try hitting the leaves a little harder.



Adaptations

- Turn your creation into a work of art! Use paint or markers to add color and designs to your work.
- Use this method to decorate letters to send to friends or family.
- Use this activity in tandem with a science lesson, check out [education.com](https://www.education.com) to find free lessons and activities on photosynthesis for all ages.

what's happening here??

As the days grow longer and the weather becomes sunnier, we begin to see new green plants growing all around us, their leaves unfurling towards the sky.

The leaves and stems of plants get their green color from something called *chlorophyll*. Chlorophyll help turn sunlight into energy, which the plant uses to live and grow, in a process called *photosynthesis*. This process is similar to how humans like us eat food to stay alive.

As we crush the leaves, the chlorophyll is absorbed by the paper in the shape of a leaf.