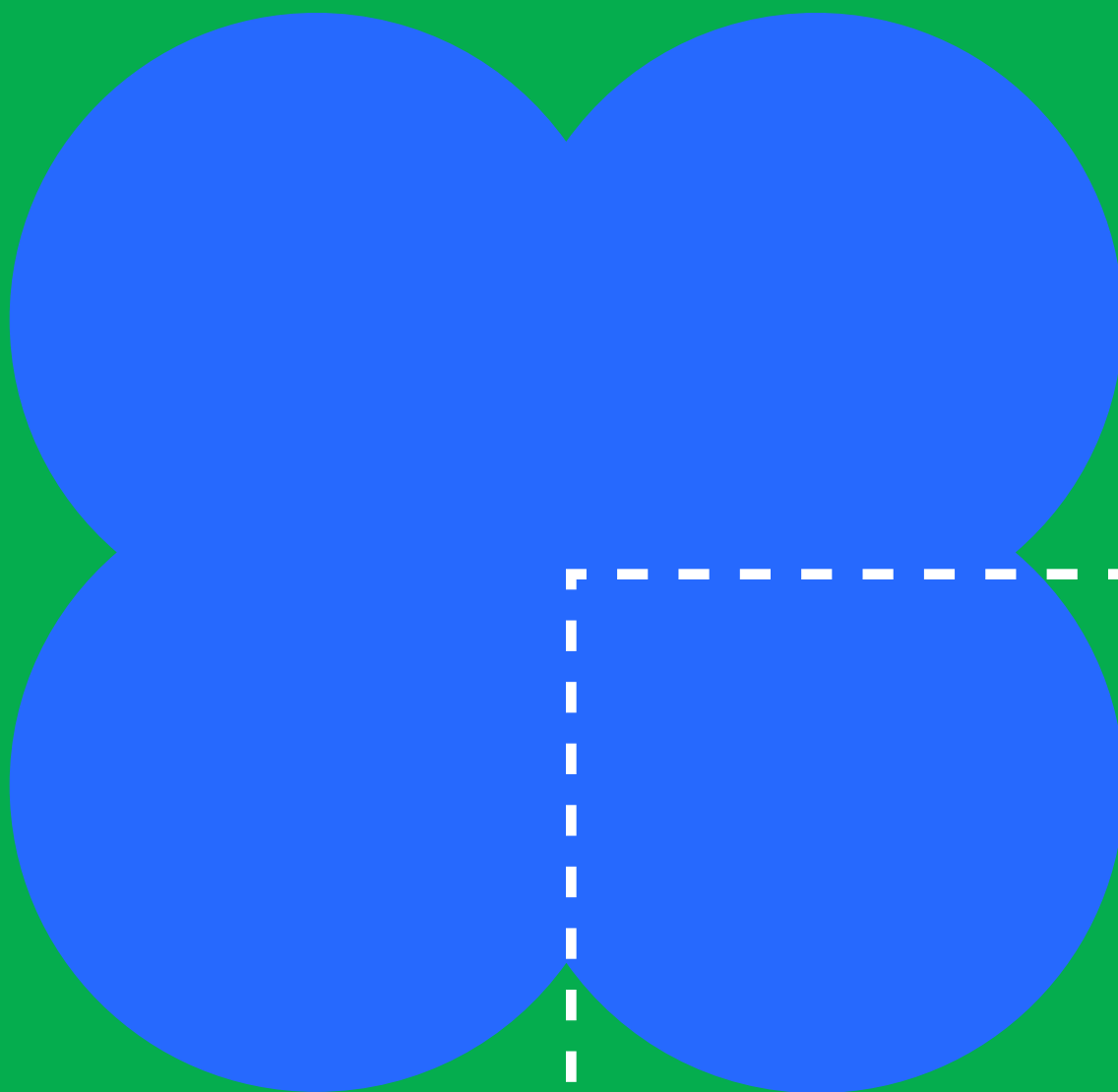


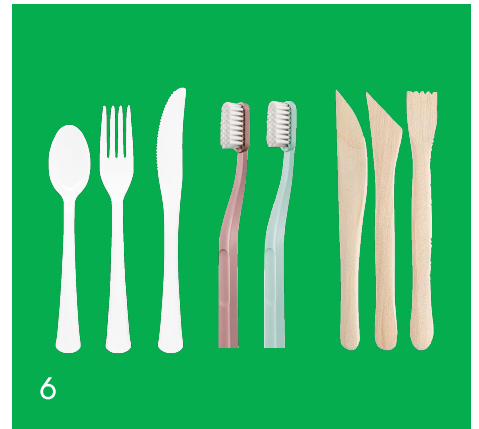
Nature Arrangements



activity 5

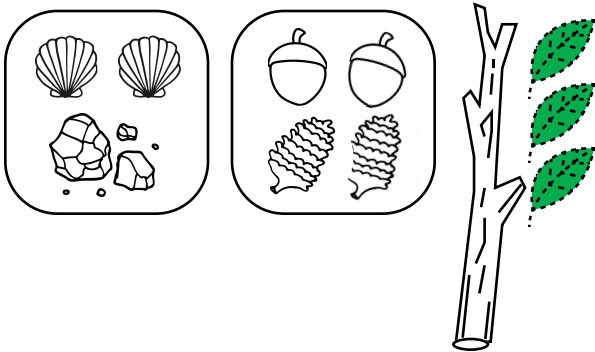
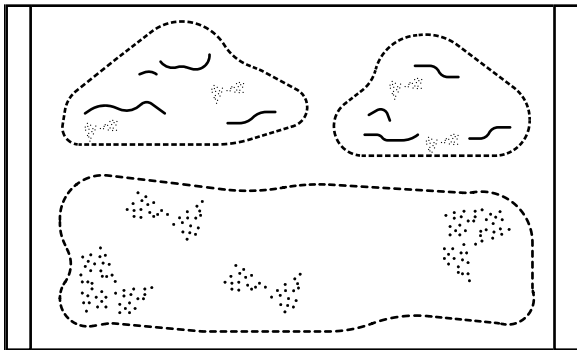
Children use natural materials to create a composition.

Materials

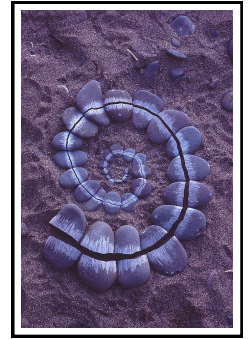


- 1 A variety of natural materials such as sticks, leaves, pinecones, acorns, flowers, small rocks, petals, and shells. Gather these materials, with the children if feasible.
- 2 Containers, to hold natural materials
- 3 Trays or plates
- 4 Soil
- 5 Spray bottle, with water to wet the soil
- 6 Forks, spoons, old toothbrushes, and other tools to create designs and textures in the soil

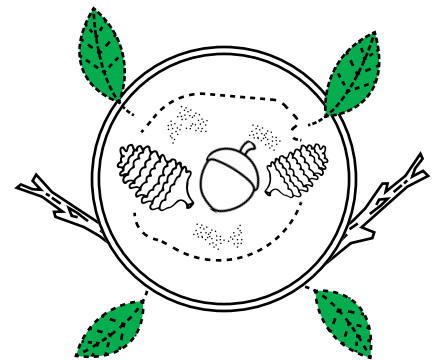
Let's Get Ready!



Andy Goldsworthy, 'Bracken,'
Cumbria 1982



Andy Goldsworthy, 'Carefully
Broken Pebbles Scratched
White,' Scotland 1985



Step 1

Place the natural materials in containers organized by color, shape, material type, or another way. Set up trays or plates with a layer of soil or sand. Place all together on a table or floor.

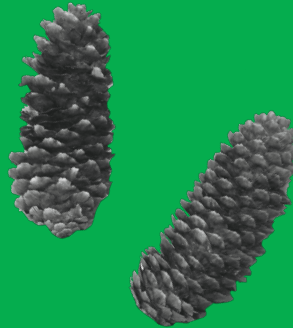
Step 2

Show children images of Andy Goldsworthy's artworks, and ask them what they notice. Invite children to make their own arrangements using natural materials. Take photos of children's arrangements, as they will disintegrate over time.

Let's Play!



Can you make a pattern using the natural materials?



Children might prefer to place natural materials on damp sand or soil to prevent the materials from moving around during placement.



How can we tell stories through arranging natural materials in different ways?



Model language that describes the materials (e.g., “look at this smooth rock,” “I can see some pink petal,” and “I can feel that this pinecone is rough”)



Offer a smaller array of materials if a child might benefit from limited choices.



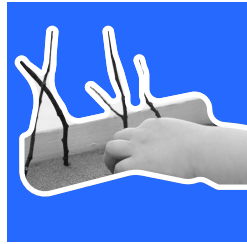
How can we create different shapes with the natural materials?



Art Techniques



Classifying



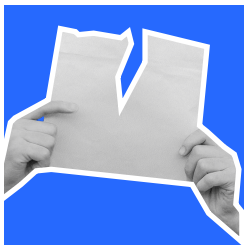
Arranging



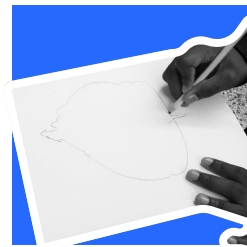
Organizing



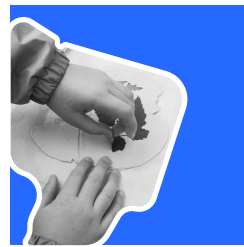
Sorting



Ripping



Composing



Placing



Storytelling

Vocabulary

Arrangement

a way to place things in a thoughtful way

Rough

bumpy, not smooth

Smooth

not rough or lumpy

Texture

how something feels

Andy Goldsworthy

Andy Goldsworthy is an artist, photographer, and environmentalist. He worked on a farm when he was a teenager and later connected art to all the things he saw in nature as a kid. He uses a lot of natural materials in his work, like stone, flowers, leaves, sticks, tree trunks, and grass to make temporary and permanent sculptures in landscapes.



Image source: CASS Sculpture Foundation



“ We often forget that we are nature. Nature is not something separate from us. So when we say that we have lost our connection to nature, we’ve lost our connection to ourselves. ”



Goldsworthy's artworks are often temporary and disintegrate in the natural landscape over time. He knows that nature will eventually make his work disappear, and that's okay! He doesn't think art needs to be permanent for it to be beautiful.

Andy Goldsworthy, 'Elder Leaf Patch,' Cumbria 1983



Andy Goldsworthy, 'Bracken,' Cumbria 1982

Let's Observe!

- What colors and textures do you see?
- What materials did he use to create the sculptures?
- What does this artwork make you think of?



Andy Goldsworthy, 'Carefully Broken Pebbles Scratched White,' Scotland 1985