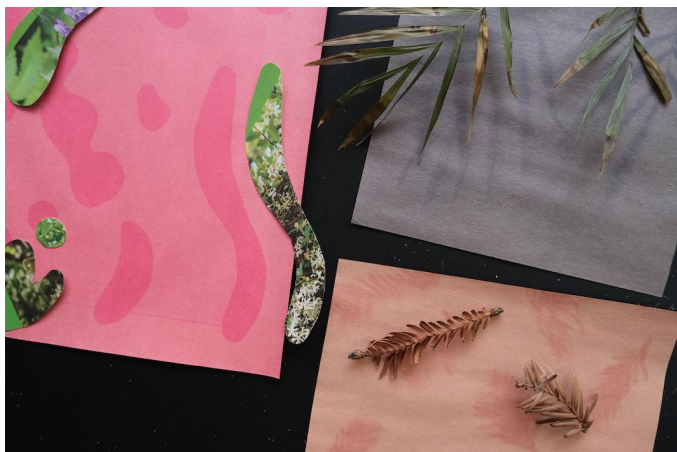


Sun Printing on Construction Paper

Difficulty: ★☆☆☆☆ - Easy

Time: 30 minutes (+ inactive 2-3 hours when the sun does its magic)



Materials

- Construction paper (preferably dark colors)
- Found objects like leaves, flowers, sticks and pebbles
- Thick paper (optional)
- Tray or cardboard (optional)
- Piece of glass or acrylic sheet, plastic wrap or tape (optional)

Tips

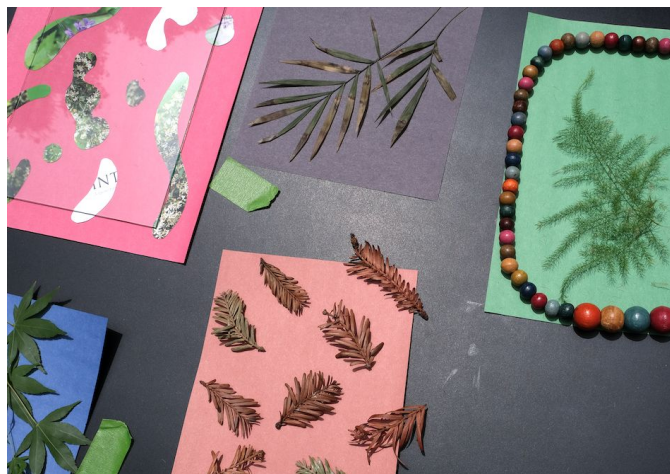
Do this activity on a bright sunny day. If it's cloudy you will need to wait longer.

Steps

1. Collect flat leaves, flowers and other objects. It is helpful to press leaves and flowers in a large book briefly if you want very defined images. You can also cut out some shapes from a thick piece of paper.



2. Put the construction paper on a tray or cardboard and bring it to an area that will get **several hours of direct sunlight**. Arrange your leaves and flowers on the paper.



3. Once you are happy with your design, secure it. If you have a piece of glass or clear acrylic sheet, place it on top of the leaves and flowers to keep them in place. Otherwise, cut some plastic wrap and put it over the



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construction paper, weight it down with rocks or something heavy at the corners. Or simply tape them. You don't want wind to blow away the objects and the paper!



4. Leave the paper in direct sunlight for about 2-3 hours. The longer you leave it out, the more dramatic the results will be.

5. Once the paper is adequately exposed to the sun, remove the protection and the objects to reveal the print.



The sun did a fabulous job of fading the color, leaving the dark original color where you had shielded the paper with objects.

Try it again with other objects! You can use all sorts of things: feathers, keys, buttons, toys.

Play around with the exposure time to see what happens if you keep the paper in the sun less or longer.

