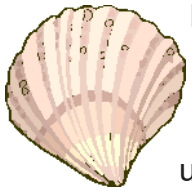
Kids Explore!

Create Earth Art

Use natural materials to create temporary art in nature at home or even on vacation!

Materials:



Note: Your art materials can be anything from nature! Just don't use the only one of something or all of anything. The following are just a few suggestions.

- Lichen-covered twigs
- Cones
- Rocks of different colors, shapes, and sizes
- Branches
- Shells
- Dried grasses
- Pretty leaves
- Fir or cedar boughs
- Acorns or filberts
- Driftwood

1. Go outside and collect a variety of interesting natural materials. Look in your yard, on sidewalks, in gardens, in parks.

2. Find an open spot outside where you can create a temporary earth art creation. A field, a grassy lawn, a beach, or even a deck or patio will work fine.

3. Use your natural materials to make interesting patterns and designs. Notice all the different colors, shapes, and textures of your materials.

4. Take a photo of your earth art so you can "keep" your creation. Send us an email with your photo attached and we'll put it on our website! Check out some examples of art made by kids at Nearby Nature below.

5. If you have made your creation in a place where others might enjoy it, leave it there. If you need to clean up, collect your materials and keep them for a future project or return them to the natural areas where you found them.

6. For some earth art inspiration, check out photos by artist Andy Goldsworthy on the internet or in a book from the library (or in the movie Rivers and Tides). This artist does AMAZING things with stones, ice, leaves...you name it...he can take anything from nature and make it into art.

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