

# Explore!

## Create Earth Art

Use natural materials to create temporary art in nature.

### Materials:



Note: Your materials can be anything from nature! Just don't take 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.

2. Find an open spot outside where you can create a temporary earth art creation. An field, a grassy lawn, a beach, or even a 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 our site for other kids' artwork.

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.



### The Bat

The bat is batty as can be,  
 It sleeps all day in cave or tree,  
 And when the sun sets in the sky,  
 It rises from its rest to fly.  
 All night this mobile mammal mugs  
 A myriad of flying bugs.  
 And after its night out on the town,  
 The batty bat sleeps  
 Upside down.

— Douglas Florian, *Beast Feast*

### The Spider

The spider, sly and talented,  
 Weaves silver webs of silken thread,  
 Then waits for unobservant flies  
 To whom she'll not apologize!

—Jack Prelutsky

To go in the dark with a light is to know light.  
 To know the dark, go dark. Go without sight,  
 and find that dark, too, blooms and sings,  
 and is traveled by dark feet and dark wings.

—Wendell Berry