# **Science at Home**



Are you looking for something to do to keep your brain active and engaged? We're here to help with Science at Home! You can do these fun science activities using commonly found items. You can also visit us at the Museum's **Science at Home** page for additional resources.

# **Make a Nature Collage**



#### **Materials Needed:**

Paper Basket or bag (optional) Pen or pencil (optional) Scissors (optional)

#### Instructions:



**Step 1:** Decide on a subject or inspiration for your nature collage.



Step 2: Begin collecting a variety of leaves, flowers, seeds, twigs, and other pieces of your local landscape that can serve different purposes for your collage. Think about the different features of your subject that you want to highlight. Grass could make hair, a leaf for each eye, a twig for your smile. Let your imagination guide you. You will only need a small amount of each object.



**Step 3:** Create the canvas for your collage by laying paper down on a flat surface. You can also use alternatives to paper such as cardboard, dirt, concrete, grass, or any surface that is flat with a uniform color.



**Step 4:** Spread out your collected items to the side of your canvas.



**Step 5:** Assemble your collage by placing the items you collected on your canvas. Use scissors or your hands to trim the material to the desired shape and size. If necessary, gather more items that you need to complete your image.



**Step 6:** When you are finished you can take a photo of your collage and return your items to an appropriate location.

#### What We've Learned

A nature collage is created with natural objects that are combined to become something new — going beyond the individual objects to form a larger picture. Connect with nature and show off your creativity by creating a collage of yourself, a friend or family member, a pet, or anything you can imagine. Observe the small details of plants such as textures, colors and shapes. Then imagine how you could re-purpose them to be part of your collage. Collecting a variety of leaves, flowers, seeds, twigs, and other pieces of your local landscape will help you notice flora that you may overlook every day.

## Tips for collecting materials:

Start with a walk around your nature landscape looking closely at the wide variety of plants. Observe the variations in shapes, textures, and patterns of leaves. Finding a variety of colors may be difficult depending on the time of year. Try to collect a small sample of a wide variety of materials while being mindful to not harm anything while collecting.

### **Having Fun?**

We want to see! Tag **@naturalsciences** on social media, so we can see you and your loved ones enjoying our Science at Home activities.