Visual Arts Planning: Our Natural World

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Explore our collection of Natural World themed resources.

With our planet under threat of climate change, it's more important than ever that the younger generations learn about the delicate balance of our habitats. Here, we have collected some resources together that celebrate our natural world and all the animals in it.

Tell us what you are planning to cover or explore this term in your school or institution and we'll recommend resources or learning approaches which we think might feed your teaching.

Contact us by email.



Animals and Wildlife

After School Art Club: Drawing, Collage, Painting and Sculpture. (Part 1)



Make individual sculptures of polar bears, which can be brought together as a communal artwork.

After School Art Club: Drawing, Collage, Painting and Sculpture. (Part 12



Create an icy installation in the school hall, to give children the opportunity to see all their polar bears in context.

Ice Worlds



A project that invites pupils to create an imaginative interpretation of what an ice world above and below the waterline might be like.

An Ecological Mural



A collaborative project exploring animal habitat, taking the form of a large scale mural pasted onto boards and mounted on an empty brick wall within the school grounds.

Monoprint Animals



Artist-Educator Cathy Mills works with children in foster care to create simple monoprints, inspired by animals.

Anthropomorphic Animal Portraits



This painting activity looks at giving human characteristics to animals.

Exploring Casting with Animal Moulds



This resource shares the process of casting using latex moulds to primary-aged children. The final casts will then be used to explore the work of artist Henri Rousseau.

Making Long Legged Animals



Using the theme of long legged animals, this sculptural challenge shows how to construct with a variety of materials, including Modroc.

Drawing Cartoon animals



Explore how to draw cartoon animals — enable children to build an understanding of their subject matter together with an awareness of how mark making can help portray personality and action.

Making Illustrated Letters



Illustrator Isobel Grant offers children

and teenagers a fun activity focusing on illustrated letters.

Animal Masks



This one hour session, the first in a series of three workshops, was about creating initial animal mask designs and generating animal mask ideas.

Spiral Snails



Tracy McGuinness Kelly demonstrates a project based on drawing spirals, which can relate to a mini-beast topic in school, or stand alone as a drawing workshop.

Animal Sculptures



Exploring themes around identity by creating collages and mixed media sculpture inspired by animals and their characteristics and habitats.

Chimera drawings



Create your own beasts! With Artist Eleanor Somerset.

Newspaper Heads



Textile and graphic artist Sharon Gale shows how to make colourful, painted Newspaper Animal Heads.

Habitats, Meadows and Flowers

Animal Habitat Mural



Vicki Ostersen showcases a project that explores animal habitat, taking the form of a large scale mural pasted onto boards and mounted on an empty brick wall within the school grounds.

A wildflower Meadow



Head of Art Rachel Burch explores simple drawing, collaging and painting techniques to create beautiful artworks inspired by a summer meadow.

Painting A Rainbow Forest



A large scale, colourful forest painting by Primary School children.

Hedgerow Art



Artist Educator Sara Dudman shares a beautifully illustrated resource in which she enables teenagers to work together to create hedgerow-inspired drawings and paintings.

working with and in the landscape



Artist Frances Hatch shares her magical processes for creating site specific art, inspired by a variety of environments including costal, woodland and urban environments and using materials found at the location.

Botanical Fairies



Rachel Thompson demonstrates a simple collage activity using flowers from the garden to create a Fairy collage.

Walking and Drawing



Artist and AccessArt team member shares the process of making drawings whilst walking.

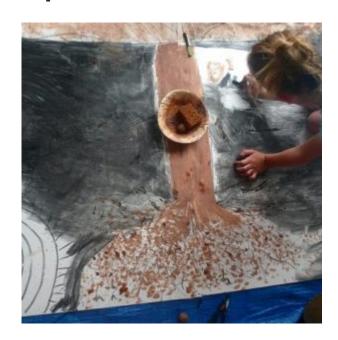
Volcano Paintings



AccessArt contributor Kate Gorely shows how to use innovative ways to explore colour and texture in painting, inspired

by the Artist Frank Bowling.

Explore and Draw



This innovative drawing and nature project for children ages 7 -13 yrs, took place at the Museum in the Park, Stratford Park, Stroud, over five Saturday's.

Which Artists: Faith Bebbington



Artist Faith Bebbington talks us through the process of her sculptural work, using waste plastic to create beautiful large scale animal and figurative forms.

Monoprint Farmyard



This workshop gave students the chance to experiment with a variety of different processes to create rich, textured surfaces.

A Bluebell Forest



In this project young teenagers were given the opportunity to paint on a larger scale and immerse themselves in colour. We were all inspired by the spring!

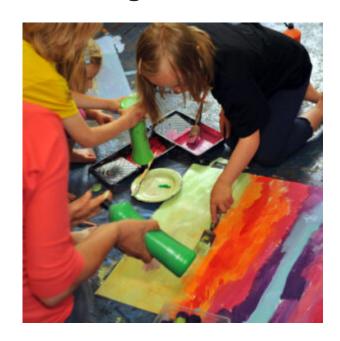
Primal Painting



In this resource Marijke Liefting and

Iris Verbakel, share a workshop session in which children explore a kitchen garden as a source for natural pigments.

Painting the Savannah



Artist Chloe Williams introduces children attending a workshop, to colour and printmaking on an ambitious and energetic scale.

Stones, Fossils and Shells

Nature Kaleidoscope



In this post, Artist and Creative Practitioner Helen Walsh shows how to make a colourful kaleidoscope using natural and found materials.

Drawing on Pebbles



Inspired by a collection of small pieces of flint, slate, brick and wood collected

on a walk, this post shows how to make them into 'fossils'.

Dressing up as Fossils



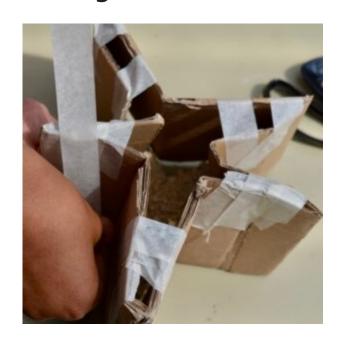
Filling a canvas with fossil patterns before hiding underneath them to become fossils!

Observation and Imagination: Shells



An activity that introduces both observational and imaginative drawing when looking at sea shells and pebbles.

Making Shells



In this post shells make an excellent theme to inspire building with stuff and exploring how materials might work together to create form, structure and texture.

Drawing shells big!



Drawing shells on a large scale was the theme of a workshop for teenagers that introduced basic steps to creating form and tonal shading in drawings.