

Make a Nature Brush

Create natural, DIY paintbrushes made with sticks, leaves, and flowers.

Nature offers us many colors and textures in the Spring when plants and flowers wake up. Experiment with making different marks, strokes, and stamps on paper.

Materials

Small sticks
Leaves, flowers, acorns, and/or stones
String or rubber bands
Tape (for heavier objects)
Acrylic or water-based tempera paint
Paintbrush
Paper
Cup of water



Instructions

1. Take a walk outside: feel the air, listen to the sounds, and take a look at the world around you!
2. Collect natural items close to the ground, such as fallen leaves, flowers, petals, small sticks, pebbles, or acorns.
3. Attach natural items to the end of a stick using string or a rubber band. This is your nature brush!
4. Dip the brush in paint and make marks on paper. Explore patterns, textures, lines and shapes.
5. Experiment with different colors and shades.
6. Rinse the nature brush between colors by gently running water over it.
7. Let your paintings dry and add them to your family gallery!

Go Further

In this project, we made a textured brush, but you can also add texture to the paint itself. Try adding sand, grass, or crumbled leaves to your paint.

For an extra sensory experience, you can use your fingers to paint!

Share a photo of your nature painting! Tag us on Instagram @bcmkids #bcmandyou

