



How to Make a Leaf Rubbing

Place the leaf on a solid surface (it helps to hold everything in place as you create your prints)

Cover the leaf with each type of paper you are using for the activity

Slowly, use each medium (crayons, coloured pencils or oil pastels) and rub it over the top of the paper to see the outline and details of the leaf

Feel free to mix and match your papers and drawing supplies in any way you'd like to for the project. Why not try using greaseproof paper, foil or sugar paper?



Can you identify the tree that the leaf came from?

Why is a leaf green?

Leaves contain chlorophyll, which has a green pigment. Chlorophyll is the substance that absorbs sunlight to use in photosynthesis (the process of turning carbon dioxide and water into food for the tree).

Why do leaves change colours?

In Autumn, when the days get shorter and colder, the tree knows that winter is coming. Since there is not enough sunlight and water available during winter, the tree goes into a resting period where it will stop producing food.

When chlorophyll stops being made, the green colour fades and we see the other colours that have always been in the leaf