

Year 1 – Lesson Plan 1 - ART

Can You Paint Without a Brush?

Aim: To explore texture, pattern and mark-making by using natural objects to paint with instead of brushes.	Key Words: • texture • pattern • print • nature • mark-making	Preparation: Large sheets of paper Shallow trays or plates of paint (variety of colours) Natural objects collected in advance or by the class (e.g. leaves, sticks, feathers, stones, pinecones) Aprons or protective clothing
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Prior Learning: Children will have used paint and paintbrushes to make marks on paper.

WC / PT	Warm-up: Show a painting made with unusual tools (e.g. leaf prints). Ask: What do you think was used to make this? Can you guess what object made that mark? Discuss textures in nature.	0-5 mins
WC	Main Teach: Show children examples of natural objects and demonstrate how to dip and press them into paint to create different effects (e.g. rolling pinecones, leaf prints). Talk about how the shape, size, and texture affect the marks.	5-10 mins
I / S	Activity: Children use natural items to explore painting freely. Encourage them to try different objects, overlap colours, and observe the patterns made. Allow them to name or describe what their paintings look like.	10-30 mins
I	Extension Challenge: Children choose their favourite natural object and create a repeating pattern with it across the page.	30-35 mins
WC	Plenary: Gather children to show a few examples. Ask: Which object made the most interesting marks? Did anything surprise you? How was painting with nature different from using a brush?	35-40 mins

WC – Whole Class

PT – Partner Talk

I – Independent

S - Support

Challenge A	Create a collage using leaves, twigs, and seeds collected from outside.
Challenge B	Go on a texture hunt around school and draw five things with different textures.