

Preschool Activity: Nature Textures

Make art while exploring the different textures found outside!

(Inspired by California Preschool Learning Foundations; Visual Arts 1.1)

Pre-Activity Questions

- What does tree bark look and feel like? What do the leaves look and feel like?
- Do different kinds of trees have the same bark or leaves?

Activity

- Skin covers your body, and bark covers a tree's body! Your skin protects you, just like a tree's bark protects the tree. It also lets air and water through. How is your skin the same or different from tree bark?
- There are lots of different textures in nature! We can explore them with our senses, and we can even make art from them.

Explore different textures with art!

Materials

- Crayons
- Paper
- Optional: colored cardstock
- Optional: Elmer's glue

Steps

1. Peel the wrappers off your **crayons**. You will need several different colors.
2. Take your crayons and **paper** outside.
3. Find a tree and explore the bark - what does it look like, and how does it feel?
4. Take your paper and hold it flat over the bark.
5. Rub the long side of your crayon over your paper and the bark, making a rubbing.
6. Repeat steps 3-5 with different objects found in nature (leaves, different tree bark, wooden bench, flat stone, etc.) and different color crayons until you are satisfied with your artwork.
7. Optional: Use **Elmer's glue** to glue the nature texture rubbing onto **colored cardstock** for a bright border and support.
8. Optional: Find 3 pieces of nature you like and glue them to your rubbing.

Post-Activity Questions and Activities

- What things besides tree bark and leaves did you use for rubbings?
- What was your favorite rubbing?