

# ART AND DESIGN

## Bark Rubbings

### Resources needed

Lengths of materials  
(Cotton/polyester mix or calico)  
Clothes pegs or parcel tape  
Wax crayons

Children can work in groups of up to 4.  
Choose trees with girth of a metre or more. Think about the bark texture, if it is too coarse children can find it difficult to get a rubbing. Sycamore works well.

Wrap the trunk in the material and hold it in place with clothes pegs. Children can take a rubbing using wax crayons or pastels. Changing trees and over-rubbing produces interesting results



## Clay faces

### Resources needed

Modelling Clay or  
Giotto Plastiroc

Collections of leaves, twigs, grasses  
and seeds.

An old tree with lots of low level  
gnarly bits on the trunk!

Depending on the size of the tree  
children can work in groups of 3 or  
4.

Children can use the Plastiroc and  
additional materials found on the  
woodland floor to create faces by  
enhancing the natural features of  
the bark, perhaps inventing stories  
to go with them.

A camera is used to return the  
image to school.

Children must remember to leave  
the tree as they found it!



## Colour Cards

### Resources needed

Strips of white card

Double sided sticky tape

Prepare strips of stiff white card roughly 20cm x 5cm. Line the cards with double sided sticky tape. Children can work individually or in pairs. They collect individual leaves or grasses and attach them to the sticky tape.

Set the children a challenge!  
e.g. How many shades of green can they find?  
Can you collect a range of shades of brown?  
How many different colours can you find?



## Chalk and charcoal sketches

### Resources needed

Coloured chalks

Charcoal sticks

Small amounts of clay or plastiroc

A tree with suitably textured bark  
(experiment yourself before setting tasks for children).

Children draw on the tree trunk with chalk and or charcoal, embellishments could be added with clay or plastiroc. A small group could create drawings to encircle the trunk of a large tree. Images can be saved with a camera. The weather removes the chalk fairly quickly after the activity.



## Making 'boggards' or 'boggerts'

### Resources needed

Modelling clay or Plastiroc  
Bits of twig, moss, grass stems,  
leaves etc.

Children can work individually or in  
pairs creating their own fantasy  
creatures who live in the trees.

