

Leaf Bashing!

Remember to wash your hands after playing!

Aim: Today you and a responsible adult are going to gather together the most **intricate** and **interesting** looking leaves that you can find, and **create imprints** of them that you can use to decorate a piece of paper or a swatch of cotton.

Step 1 - Gather leaves

On your next walk outdoors, look all around you at the trees, bushes, and the ground beneath your feet for the **best looking leaves** you can possibly find.

Step 2 - What to decorate

Choose a piece of plain, light coloured **fabric** (perhaps an old t-shirt or a bed sheet?) or a sheet of **paper** to imprint with your leaf design.

Step 3 - Find a basher

You'll need a **heavy item** like a hammer, rolling pin, pestle, or a cricket bat.

Good luck!



Step 4 - Squash that leaf

Fold your paper or fabric in half and place a leaf in between, then begin to gently **tap tap tap** over the top with your heavy item, to crush the leaf.

Step 5 - Admire your leaf art

Check on your leaf inside and see if its patterns are beginning to decorate the light material. If not, you might have to be less gentle and give it a few **big whacks!** Once the pattern has transferred, you can remove the leaf and admire your new work of art!

Top tip: Some leaves work better than others. Our instructors have made great patterns with **fern** leaves, so try one of those if your leaf isn't imprinting.