Cadette- Outdoor Art Apprentice

Step 1.

Record how things change outdoors. Head outside and find a scene—it might be a lake, a tree, the ocean, a trail, or a plant in your backyard. Write about it or sketch it in color. Record everything you observe. What season is it? What time of day? What colors do you see? What do you like about your scene? Then go out and record this same setting again at another time of day. Is the lighting different? Did weather make a difference in the scene? In what ways do your two impressions of the same scene differ?

Step 2.

Dye something you can wear. Find natural dye materials—beets, berries, roots, nuts, carrots, tea leaves, or flowers—to dye a shirt, tote, scarf, or whatever you want! Look for natural dyeing materials in your backyard and experiment. The best fabrics to dye are cotton, silk, wool, and linen. Synthetic fabrics, like polyester, might work, too, but with lighter results.

Design Sponge

D.I.Y. Natural Fabric Dyes

Add **1 part** chopped ingredient to **2 parts** water in a pot. Bring to a boil, simmer for one hour. While dye is simmering, add **1 part** vinegar and **4 parts** water to a pot. Bring to a boil, add desired fabric and simmer for one hour. Rinse fabric in clear cool water and your fabric is ready to be dipped into the (strained) dye! Leave fabric in dye until desired color is reached, then hang to dry. (Allow fabric to soak overnight for deeper color).

Reds & Pinks

Beets, Blueberries, Strawberries, Cherries, Raspberries, Hibiscus Flowers

Blues & Purples

Purple cabbage, Blackberries, Grapes, Purple Iris
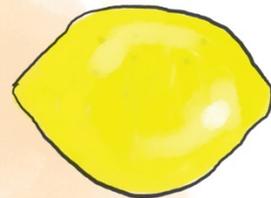
Green

Artichokes, spinach, nettle

Orange

Yellow onion skin/peel and Carrots

Yellow

Lemon and orange peels

Grey & Black

Sumac leaves, Meadowsweet and Walnut Hulls

Brown

Acorns (boiled), coffee grinds, walnut hulls

Step 3.

Create a nature playlist. Create a playlist out of at least five songs to listen to when you're doing something fun outdoors. Choose your theme: Slow music for relaxing outdoors? Uplifting, steady rhythms for a hike? Or, fast, upbeat tunes for a run? Then create nature-themed cover art for your playlist.

For More FUN: Create a playlist of songs that have lyrics about nature in them. Share it with friends and family.

OR

Write a rap or poem inspired by nature. Write about something in nature that moves you, like saving an endangered species, preserving a trail, or your experience on a whitewater rafting or a ski trip. Share your rap or poem with friends and family in an outdoor setting.

Step 4.

Photograph patterns and textures in nature. Find ones that appeal to you, such as the swirls on a butterfly wing, the shape of a petal, the veins on a leaf, the pattern of a snowflake, or the spines of a cactus. Then create a showcase of your work. It could be a digital album you can share, or make prints of your photos to put in a collage. Be creative!

Step 5.

Make something that interacts with weather. Create something that works with the weather, then put it outside to watch it in action. This could be a suncatcher that catches the sun's light, a sundial to tell the sun's position, a pinwheel that spins outside in the wind, or a windsock to hang outside to show wind direction.

▶ Suncatcher

Thread glass beads on to copper wire, form a coil shape (or any other shape you like!), and hang in a sunny spot to see how it catches the light.

▼ Sundial

Decorate a round piece of wood, hammer a stick in the center, then let it sit under the sun and watch the stick's shadow shift.

▲ Windsock

Cut the top and bottom from a 2-liter plastic bottle to make a tube that's open on both ends. Add strips of plastic—a large garbage bag works well—hang outside, and watch to see which direction the wind is blowing.

▲ Pinwheel

Make one from plastic, wood, or metal to plant in a garden.

***To complete this badge- email a photo or short video of your girl doing Step 2 to cmartin@girlscoutssoaz.org

You can purchase Badges at our online store https://www.girlscoutshop.com/SOUTHERN-ARIZONA-COUNCIL