

MAKER EXCHANGE

AT CORONA PUBLIC LIBRARY

activity

HAMMERED LEAF AND FLOWER CARDS

THE CHALLENGE:

Use leaves and flowers to create botanical greeting cards



RECOMMENDED AGE

14 and up

TIME NEEDED

25-30 minutes

TOOLS & MATERIALS

- Flowers and/or leaves
- Paper (watercolor paper preferred)
- Hammer
- Hard work surface (Example: Cutting board)
- Paper towels
- Scissors
- Pen
- Tweezers or toothpick (optional)
- Tape (optional)



To redeem your secret code, or to sign up for the Summer Reading Challenge, visit Corona.Bookpoints.org

GETTING STARTED-INSTRUCTIONS

STEP 1: EXPLORE YOUR SURROUNDINGS

Take a walk outside and find leaves and flowers with vibrant, bright colors. You're going to want to choose some that don't have excessive moisture but also aren't too dry. Finding out which ones work best might take some trial and error.

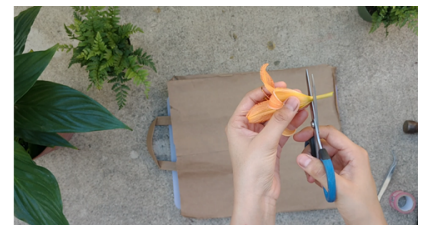


STEP 2: SET UP YOUR WORKSPACE

Gather your materials and choose a surface that is hard, smooth, and that you don't mind hammering on or getting messy. Remember to be safe while using a hammer. Wear safety goggles if you have any. Teens should seek adult assistance.

STEP 3: TRIM AND PLACE

Use your scissors to trim off any big parts that connect to the flower or leaf.



Place your paper on top of your work surface and then place the flowers and leaves facing down onto the paper. You may choose to tape down your plants.



Cover your plants completely with 2-3 layers of paper towels.

STEP 4: MARK THE AREA

With a pen, gently mark the area that you'll need to hammer.

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QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER ???

What is the best technique to get the natural dyes in flowers and leaves onto paper?

KEY TERMS 🔑

- Botanical

SIMPLIFY ➖

Don't worry too much about getting the shape of the plants perfectly. See what shapes you can create.

EXTRA CHALLENGE ➕

Try making hammered flower and leaf prints on fabric.



RELATED RESOURCES 🔍

- Lesson Video:
https://youtu.be/_1Qy3juPKKk
- Learn About Eco-Printing:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gNmt5_PITSc

INSTRUCTIONS CONTINUED...

STEP 5: BEGIN HAMMERING

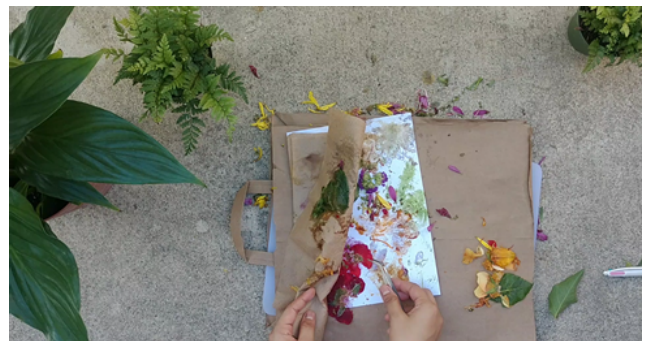
To begin, make small, even taps with the flat side of the hammer. After your plants are in place, go over the entire area carefully. Hammer in certain directions (up, down, left, right). You'll need to hit every part of the flower.

STEP 6: CHECK YOUR WORK

Gently peel off the paper towels and check the progress of your project. If the paper towel has the complete imprint of your plant you might be done and can move onto the last step.

STEP 7: THE BIG REVEAL

Carefully remove the paper towels and peel off the leaves and flowers. If the plants are stuck you can let them dry for a bit and then peel off. Don't worry if they didn't come out perfect.



STEP 8: MAKING YOUR CARD

Make sure the paper is dry and then fold it in half. Write to a friend or family member inside the card and mail it out!