

Interdisciplinary Lesson

Title: 'Leaf' Your Mark

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Subjects: Art, Science, Physical Education

Grade Level: 1-2

What You Will Need:

- * Five 9 by 9 foot pieces of white paper
- * Tape
- * Various colors of washable paint

Set up:

This lesson needs to be set up by drawing trees (without leaves) on the white pieces of paper. Then, hang the pieces of paper on the walls of the space that the activity will take place in. Place tubs with paint in the middle of the space.

Activity:

The students will place one hand in their choice of paint. They will then be instructed to skip (or whatever locomotor skill you choose) toward one of the bare trees. Once they reach the tree, they will place their handprint on one of the branches. The students will then use a different locomotor to get to another one of the bare trees where they will place their handprints on the empty branches again. The students may also move back to the center to get more paint as long as they use the directed locomotor skill. Make sure that the students thoroughly wash their hands when they are finished (either provide buckets of water and paper towels or use the bathroom if accessible). The end result will be trees full of handprint leaves!

Variations:

- * use only reds, oranges, and browns to create fall trees (or other colors for other seasons)
- * for older students, have one tree be for each season and make the students show what the tree would look like for that season by where they place their handprint (fall would be in a big pile on the ground, for example)

Assessment:

- * watch the students as they are moving from tree to tree
- * when using the seasons trees, check for understanding by looking to see if they correctly placed their handprints where the leaves should be
- * talk about trees, their leaves, and the seasons after the activity is over