



## ***Learning to Look, Learning to See***

### ***Art – Grade 1-3***

**Students exercise their observation skills by comparing leaves.**

Materials:

- At least one leaf per child in a variety of shapes, colors, and sizes
- Paper
- Crayons

Instructions:

1. Have children come to circle. Place leaves in a grocery bag.
2. Walk around the circle, asking children to reach in the bag without looking and select one leaf.
3. Children should study their leaf carefully for a minute. Look for galls or evidence of animals.
4. Do a leaf rubbing by placing paper over the leaf and coloring with the side of a crayon. Leaf should be vein side up.
5. Return all leaves to the bag.
6. Shake up the bag and dump the leaves into the middle of the circle. One by one, have the children find “their” leaf.
7. Go outside and find the trees that each leaf came from. Do a bark rubbing.

Outdoor procedure:

1. Discuss ways to really “look” for leaves and animal signs outdoors (seeing, hearing, smelling, touching).

Create an observation sheet for each child that has space for them to record things they see, smell, feel, and hear.

2. Take a walk outside. Look for evidence of animals left on leaves and other places.
3. Go back inside and share observation sheets.