

# LEAF TRACING

## MATERIALS:

- PAPER
- CRAYONS
- CLIPBOARDS
- LEAVES
- SHARPIES
- TRANSPARENCY FILM  
(OR PLASTIC SHEET  
PROTECTORS,  
LAMINATION SHEETS  
ETC.)
- WHITE PAPER, COLORED  
CONSTRUCTION PAPER
- GLUE
- BEADS
- CRAFT WIRE
- HOLE PUNCH



## Step 1: Leaf Rubbings

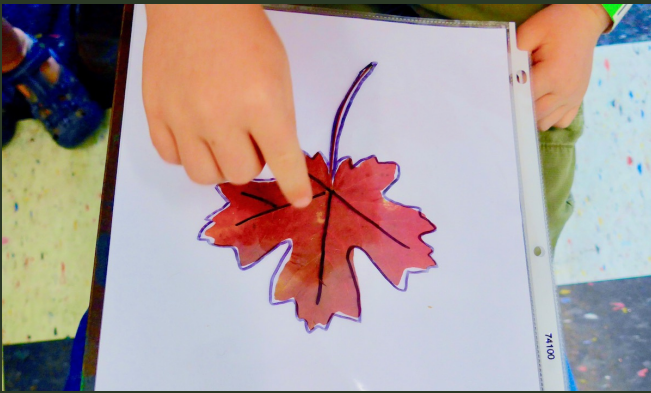
First gather a variety of different shapes and colors of leaves. Consider grabbing a copy of “We’re going on a Leaf Hunt” by Steve Metzger! Take a paper and crayons and rub your leaves by placing the leaf under the paper and running the crayon over it.

Discussion: Sit down with you newly collected leaves and rubbings. Talk about leaf details, leaf veins and different leaf shapes. Why do you think leaves have veins? Why do leaves look the way they do? Grab a magnifying glass and point out that the leaves have lines like our hands. Talk about how leaf veins transport water all the way up from the stem to the tip of the leaf like our veins transfer blood from our hear to our toes. Ask why leaves change color in the fall? Explain how the changes in the length of daylight and changes in temperature, the leaves stop their food-making process. The chlorophyll breaks down, the green color disappears, and the yellow to orange colors become visible and give the leaves part of their fall splendor.



## Step 2: Tracing Leaves

Prepare the clipboards ahead of time by gluing a leaf on a white paper, cover it with transparency film/plastic sheet/lamination paper and clip it on the clipboard. Give everyone a black sharpie and practice your drawing skills by tracing all the lines you can find. Trace your leaf shape, pay special attention to the leaf veins and follow them with your pen. How many leaf veins can you find?



## Step 3: Color

After tracing the leaves color them with autumn colored Sharpies, paying special attention to follow the natural lines and shapes of the leaf.



## Step 4: Add a Background

Pick a colored construction paper as background for their transparency paper autumn leaf. this gives you a chance to talk about contrast and color if you would like!



## Step 4: Attach a Hanger

Create a hanger for the artwork with wire. To create a hanger set out beads and tape craft wires to a table. Add all the bead you want, but make sure you leave room to tie on the wire. poke two holes at the top of your leaf tracing and thread the wire through.

