

# CREATIVE ARTS learning springboards

## Living Walls: Plants in architecture

**Mastery of the techniques of great artists, architects and designers**

**Aim:** Investigate the work of contemporary architects and landscape architects specifying Living Walls.

Explore the benefits of Living Walls for to microclimate, habitat, wellbeing and sustainability

- Look at walls in the school/ home/ local environment, and choose one that would benefit from 'greening'
- Design the planted wall.
- Research plants used – propagate them
- Select pots/troughs, (with simple watering system) to put on a wall, incorporating recycled / repurposed materials.
- Plant out or sell your seedlings.



Living Walls



## Fractals, Art, Engineering

**Discover fractals at all scales in the natural world**

**Aim:** Discover how branching structures are replicated in trees at different scales from trunk, major branches, down to the smallest twigs.

Branching patterns can be observed at different scales in coastlines, river systems and in flowers and trees. It is this complexity that humans enjoy and find relaxing.

Look closely at the work of Jackson Pollock to see how he uses fractals in his 'drip paintings' - these appear to be random, at first glance. There is interesting research to be done on the internet to see how his paintings have been analysed mathematically, and how this information is also used to check forgeries!

Fractals are also used in engineering, a further area of potential research.

Fractal expression Pollock



## Leaf print cartoons

**Make a series of prints from leaves and use them for cartoons.**

**Aim:** Develop cartoon characters from prints

Select leaves from school grounds and print a series of images using acrylic paint or acrylic inks.

See illustration adjacent.

Use these to create a series of characters with different expressions, and/or create a cartoon story board.



## Visual and tactile texture

**Explore the different textures of tree bark through taking rubbings.**

**Aim:** Develop an understanding of texture, both visual and tactile.

- Close eyes and feel the tree bark.
- Take time to explore the texture.
- Open eyes and compare the visual texture with the tactile texture.
- Use charcoal or wax crayons to take bark rubbings.
- Use the rubbings to create a tree collage

