CREATIVE ARTS learning springboards

Colour theory

Mastery of art and design techniques

Aim: Use found leaves and petals to investigate colour theory.

Resources:
Example of a colour wheel; mobile phones (for photographs).

- Challenge pupils to find representative examples of at least three primary and three secondary colours, (and more tints / tones if possible). If the school grounds don't offer sufficient variety (although it is surprising what you may find) then this can be done as a homework exercise.
- Arrange the natural objects into a colour wheel.
- Explore pattern making with colour, looking at the effects of complimentary colours and contrasts.
- Record with photographs or stick the leaves/petals onto absorbent paper to preserve them.
- Alternatively, Press the leaves/petals. Use them at a later date to decorate a piece of writing such as a letter or a postcard.
- Recreate your own colour wheel by mixing paints, attempting to match the colours found in the natural colour wheel.

Success criteria:
- ✓ I know and can describe the difference between primary and secondary colours
- ✓ I know what colours are complementary and which contrast

Leaf collections shade cards

Mastery of art and design techniques

Aim: Explore the difference between hue, tint and tone

Resources:
A range of leaves from the school grounds or gardens, or collected as a homework task; paint shade cards; school paints.

Collect a range of leaves, then order them from lightest to darkest shades, allowing visually impaired pupils to participate equally. Pupils with 'standard' sight may be helped to do this by slightly squinting at the leaves to see the differences. Another way to do this is to photograph the sets of leaves in black and white to help pupils see tone rather than colour.

- Mix paint colours to match the shades.
- You can also use DIY store paint swatch cards to match hues, tints and tones as closely as possible before mixing paint. These colour swatches also show gradations of shade very effectively.

Andy Goldsworthy

Key vocabulary: Colour, tone, shade, hue, accent

Success criteria:
- ✓ I can use the leaves to describe the difference between hue (a colour family), tint (hue with white added) and tone (hue with grey added).

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