

Children's University Club Challenge



Hapa Zome!

Hapa Zome is a Japanese art, meaning 'leaf dye'. Hapa Zome is a really easy way to turn nature into art - as long as you can hit something with a hammer, you can create Hapa Zome art!

You will need:

- Plain paper or fabric
- Hammer
- Flowers, leaves, etc.

Step 1: You need to find some fresh flowers or leaves. The brighter the colour of flower, the better your picture will be, especially if they're fresh and not too dry. Ask an adult to help you find some, carefully pick them, and bring them home carefully so they don't get squashed. Only pick them from your own garden or plants, or wild ones in a park, woodland or countryside, and remember to wash your hands well afterwards.



Step 2: Ask an adult to help you find a hard surface that you can hammer onto. Some of the dye from the flowers and leaves might go through onto this surface, so cover it if you need to with newspaper or a plastic bag.

Step 3: Arrange your flowers and/or leaves into a picture or pattern that you like, and carefully lay your paper or fabric over the top, being careful not to move them.

Step 4: Hammer over the top of your paper or material. Be careful not to hit your hand or fingers! You might need to hammer a few times over the same section, until the flower or leaf starts to break up underneath and release the beautiful colours.



Step 5: Work your way across the whole area, hammering carefully, until you can see the colours coming through. Once you've finished, hang your paper or fabric to dry somewhere, and admire your beautiful artwork! Why not have another go - look for leaves or flowers with interesting shapes or patterns. You could cut your paper or fabric into triangles and make some bunting to decorate a room?



1 CU Credit for completing this challenge. To claim your credits, please complete your CU Club Reflection Diary and return to your school along with your work.