

Crafty Ideas: **Frosted Leaf Collage**

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A glittering collage of frosted leaves

Frost creates a world that appears to have been touched by the magical wand of the Ice Queen. It sparkles on the leaves and branches of the trees, producing intricate lacy patterns that glitter in the weak sunlight.

Use the beauty and delicacy of the autumn frosts to inspire a glittering leaf collage. Children can make their own collages, or create leaves for a group artwork.

You will need:

- Cardboard leaves
- Black paper for tearing
- Silver and gold spraypaint
- Art straws
- Glitter
- PVA glue

Use

This activity can be used to complement themed work on trees or seasons, or as the inspiration for a stand-alone piece of artwork. It can be completed in a single session.

Make

Get children thinking about how frosted leaves look, sound and feel. Have some dried leaves on hand for children to look at. Talk about the qualities that they have when covered in frost, and how frosted leaves look at different times of day – in the weak early morning autumn sunlight or glinting under the yellow gaze of streetlamps.

Use poems like *November Night* by Adelaide Crapsey to help set the tone.

November Night
Listen...
With faint dry sound,
Like the steps of passing ghosts,
The leaves, frost-crisped,
break from the trees
And fall.

Create an assortment of leaves using three different approaches.

- ➔ Ask children to create 3D patterns on large cardboard leaves with pieces of ripped paper. Spray them with gold or silver paint.
- ➔ Glue art straws sprayed silver or gold onto cardboard leaves to create veined leaf patterns. Then dab with glue and sprinkle with glitter to add extra texture and sparkle.
- ➔ Fill a tray with glitter. Rip a small leaf shape from paper and cover it with glue. Quickly rub the damp leaf into the glitter and coat all over.

Display

Make tree trunks out of twisted brown paper. Extend the trunks in places to form branches. Staple the frosted leaves onto the branches of the tree, overlapping them until the tree is full, making sure that you use a variety of shapes and sizes to add pattern and texture.

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