

# Ephemeral Art: An activity to express the beauty you see in nature

Here's a hands-on activity that you can do to create art from nature. You can do it on your own or with a friend. And the best thing is you don't need to be an artist. Anyone can create ephemeral art. While nature provides both the landscape and the objects of design, nothing living is taken or used. There is only one rule... "if it grows, then no".

Ephemeral art respects our natural environment.

The beauty is that your art piece is unique, and it's ephemeral because it won't last. It's not meant to last. That's part of its beauty.

Give a voice to your art...and to nature. Describe your art using the hashtag #LakeSimcoeArt and post a picture on social media. Tag us on Instagram (@lakesimcoeconservation), or you can also e-mail a photo to info@LSRCA.on.ca.

[www.LSRCA.on.ca](http://www.LSRCA.on.ca)

# Nature Activity

## Creating your own ephemeral art piece

1

Look for a natural outdoor space that "speaks" to you. This space can be a forest, a stream, a beach, a park or even your own backyard. This location will become the "canvas" (backdrop) for your art.

2

Now look for and collect natural materials. Remember the rule "if it grows, then no". That means you don't pull plants out of the ground or cut any plant (or part of a plant) that's alive. You simply collect pieces you find scattered...use things like fallen leaves, twigs, stones, sand, mud, pine cones, acorns, snow, etc. Bring them back to the site you have chosen as your canvas.

3

Now arrange them in a pattern to make your "art" piece.

4

If you'd like, take a photo of your art piece. You can take a time-lapse photo: one now, and then another in 24 hours to see how the art has changed. You can also take a photo from a different angle, such as a worm's eye view or bird's eye view. Or you can take a photo of a foot or a hand with the art – it helps to show its scale.



Butterfly shape made of stones

Dead leaves and a white birch log lying on dark earth between tree roots. Photo courtesy of Monarch Teacher Network, TRCA



Lake Simcoe Region  
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