

# Exhibition catalogue

Why not create an exhibition catalogue for your environmental art gallery to help parents and other pupils enjoy the art work on display? Here's an example to inspire you . . .

Welcome to our school's exhibition of environmental artwork created from natural materials found in the local area.

We enjoy our environment and know how important it is for wildlife and for us. We have been careful in creating our work and will ensure that everything is returned to nature.

Please enjoy our pieces on display.

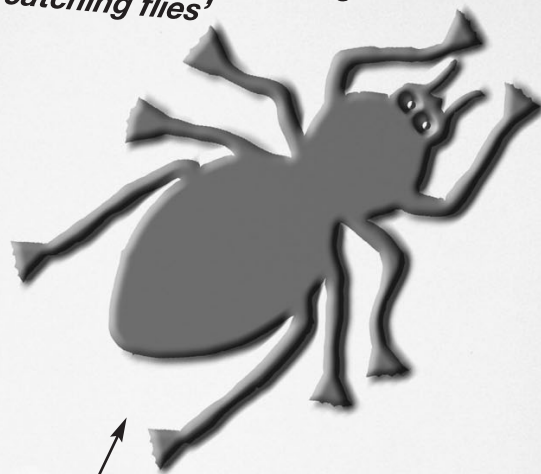
Name of piece: **Bug sculpture**

Made by: **Emily Brown**

Made from: **twigs, leaves and clay**

Approx size: **50cm x 50cm**

Artist's comments: **'I really enjoyed making my bug - it has webbed feet so it can go on water and a big tongue for catching flies'**



Introduction

Photograph

### School grounds focus:

- Where are we now?
- Where do we want to be?
- How can we get there?
- Making the changes
- Using your grounds

### Curriculum focus:

- Art and Design
- Design and Technology
- Geography/environmental studies

### Purpose of this activity:

- To create a gallery of outdoor environmental art
- To understand more about local surroundings

### Equipment / materials needed:

- Examples of work by environmental artists such as Andy Goldsworthy
- Containers for holding collected materials
- Secateurs, strong scissors
- Other useful resources found off site such as dried seed heads, pebbles, composted bark, leaves, clay to mould, add into the piece and to help hold together collected materials (your own soil may have enough clay content to do the same job)
- A large sheet of white plastic (and tent pegs for holding it down if it's breezy)
- Pieces of white card for 'mounting' artwork
- Cut logs for using as 'plinths' (optional)

### Preparation:

- If you have visited an art gallery recently use this experience to talk about how artists create work for exhibiting and how the space in which they display their work is important. Look too at displays around your own school.
- Discuss with pupils the work of environmental artists such as Andy Goldsworthy. Show them examples and talk about how they were made, how long they might last and why they are sustainable.
- Bring into the classroom some of the natural materials you know are to be found in your grounds at this time of year (leaves, stems, petals, grasses etc).
- Experiment with these – talk about their colours and textures, grind them up to make powders of colour, make drawings of potential ideas.

- Discuss designs of exhibitions and how best to see art.

### What to do:

- Explore your school grounds as a potential gallery space in which to make and exhibit environmental art. You may want to limit this to a particular part of the grounds – for example, where you know the art will be safe from trampling, or where parents will see it when they arrive to drop off or collect. Discuss the best places to exhibit work.
- Organise small groups to collect natural materials. You may want to add to these other items found off-site such as larger branches, pieces of bark, rose petals or pebbles.
- In your chosen 'gallery' area, ask each group to create a piece of artwork using their found objects. Where necessary, the artwork should be arranged on white card so it can be repositioned for exhibition.
- Lay out a white plastic sheet as your gallery 'floor' and talk about how best to arrange the pieces for other people to view. Carefully position the pieces of artwork accordingly.
- Organise a gallery tour for the class. Talk about each piece and ask for comment. Use vocabulary that helps to describe these pieces of artwork.

### Extension:

- Take photographs of all the work, both individually and as a whole, and design a catalogue recording the name of the piece, the artist, the materials used, the size of the artwork, and some comments from the artist (see over page).

© This resource was originally created as part of the Schoolgrounds-UK membership scheme from the national school grounds charity

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