

# Art Activities

at

# Birmingham Botanical Gardens



**THE BIRMINGHAM**  
**BOTANICAL**  
**GARDENS**  
AN EDUCATIONAL CHARITY

# Introduction

Many of the pupils using the Botanical Gardens for art work find it difficult to settle down because of the enormous amount and variety of material which can be used as starting points. In addition, they can find it difficult to focus on particular art skills such as the use of line or texture in their drawings.

The worksheets in this booklet are intended as 'warm-up' exercises to help pupils carefully observe what is around them and then collect a series of quick sketches based on a theme such as pattern or colour. These warm-up exercises can then lead on to more detailed studies which would take the pupils a longer time to complete.

The Education Department has a range of resources such as clipboards, pencils, crayons and pastels which can be borrowed by students. Please e-mail [education@birminghambotanicalgardens.org.uk](mailto:education@birminghambotanicalgardens.org.uk) to discuss/request.

Learning objective:

to learn how to gather a range of primary research material to be used in classwork

# COLOUR COLLECTION

## Feelings

**Tropical**

**Sub-Tropical**

**Mediterranean**

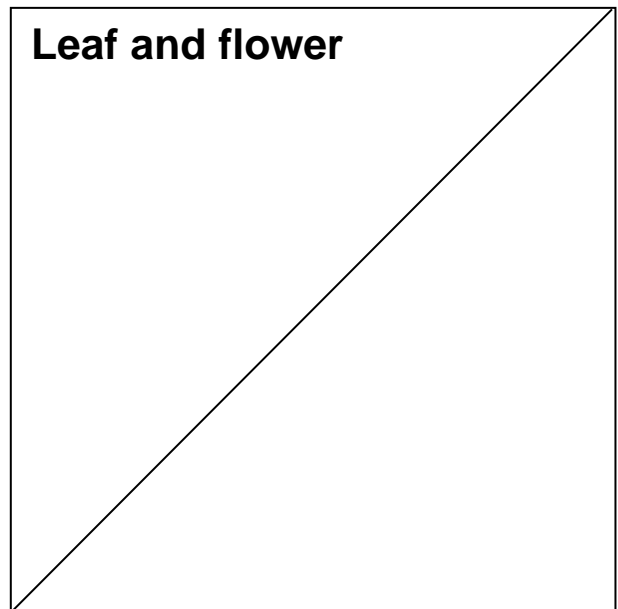
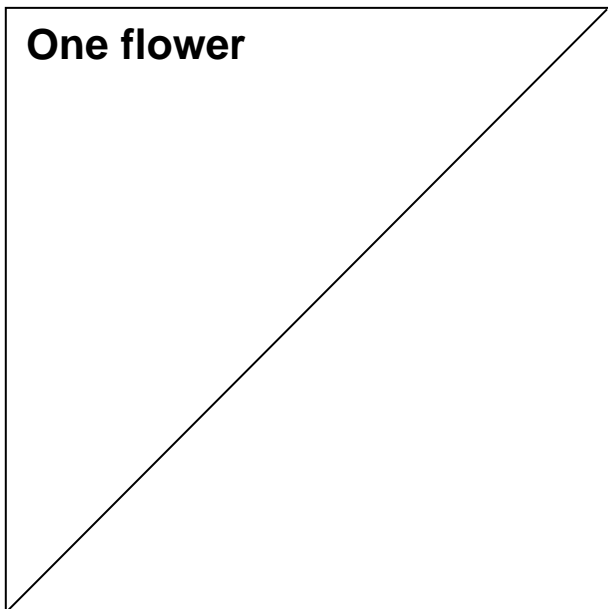
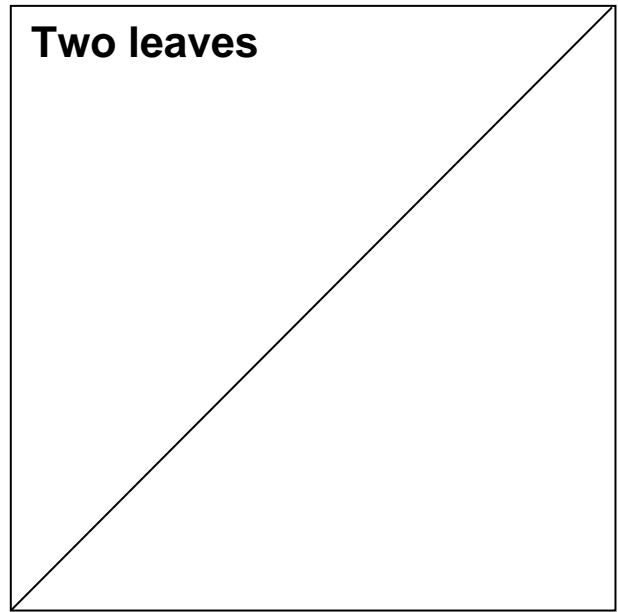
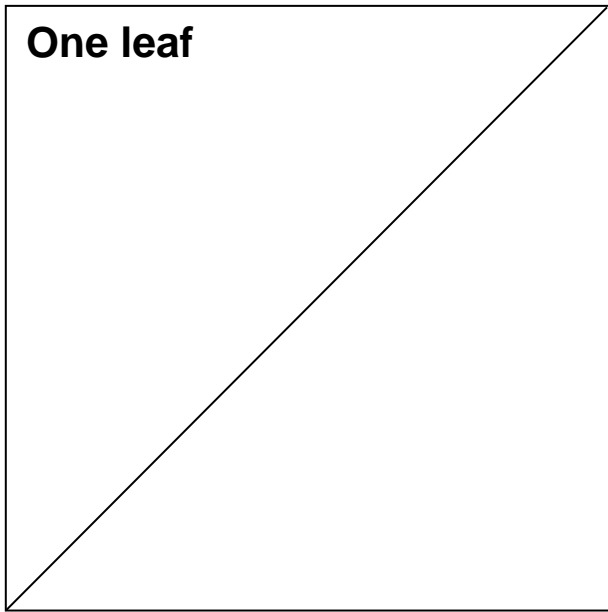
**Arid**

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# COLOUR COLLECTION

## Contrasting Colours



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# A COLLECTION OF LINES

**A web**

**Soft**

**Jagged**

**Wavy**

**Overlapping**

**Broken**

**Curved**

**?**

**?**

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## Can you draw lines of...

... a leaf?

...overlapping leaves?

... a window frame?

.... decorative  
architecture?

.... plant roots?

.... tree bark?

.... a silhouette?

.... a climbing plant  
and its support?

?

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# **A COLLECTION OF PATTERNS**

## The Physical Environment

**Brick**

**Paving**

**Stones**

**Metalwork**

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# **A COLLECTION OF PATTERNS**

## **The Natural Environment**

**A pattern on a leaf**

**A pattern of leaves**

**A pattern of flowers**

**A pattern of leaves  
and flowers**

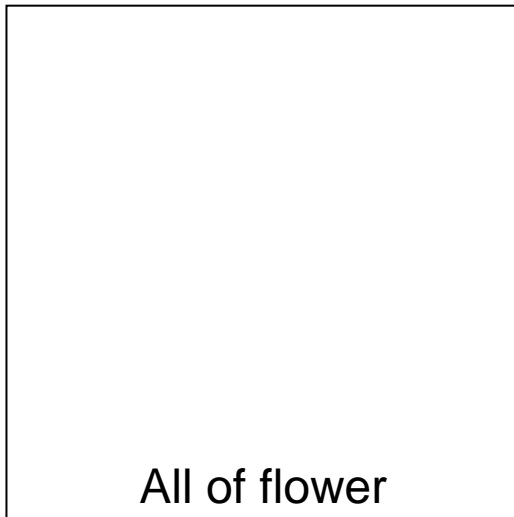


Learning objective:

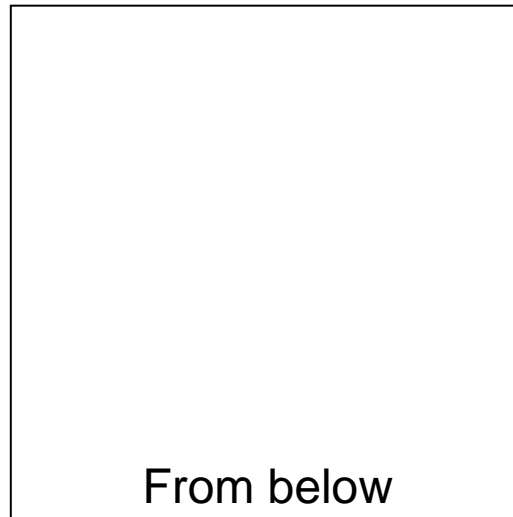
to learn how to gather a range of primary research material to be used in classwork

## **TYPE OF FLOWER**

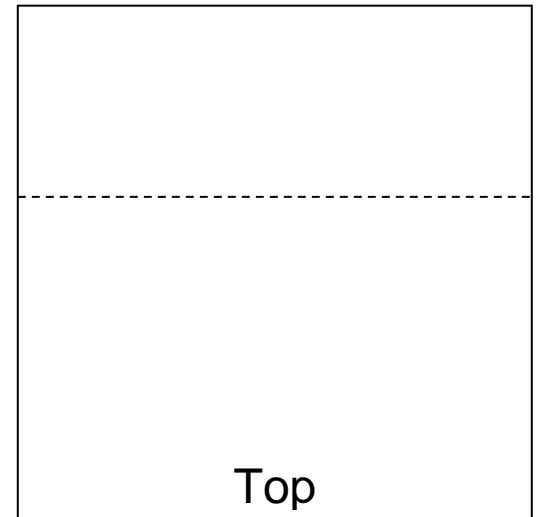
**Outline**



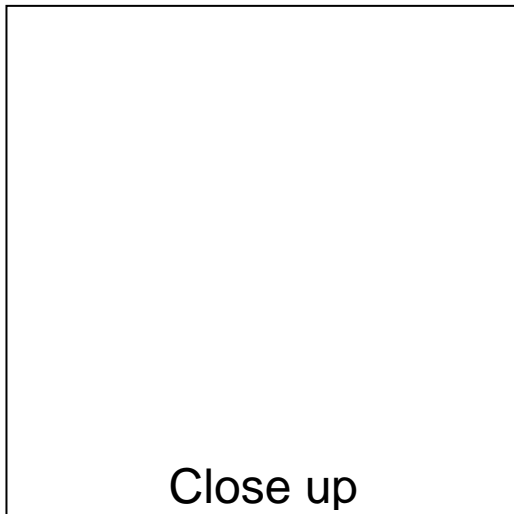
**Perspective**



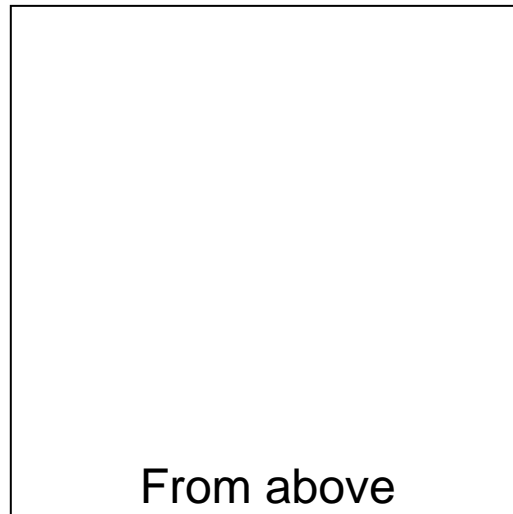
**Composition**



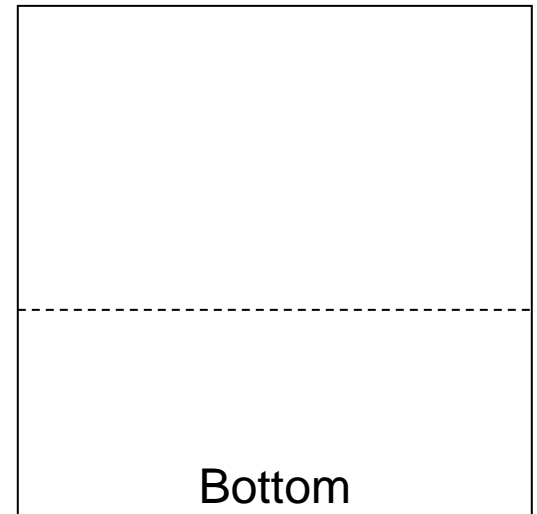
**Close up**



**From above**



**Bottom**



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# A COLLECTION OF TEXTURES

**Grainy**

**Smooth**

**Hairy**

**Ridged**

**Sharp**

**?**

**A rubbing**

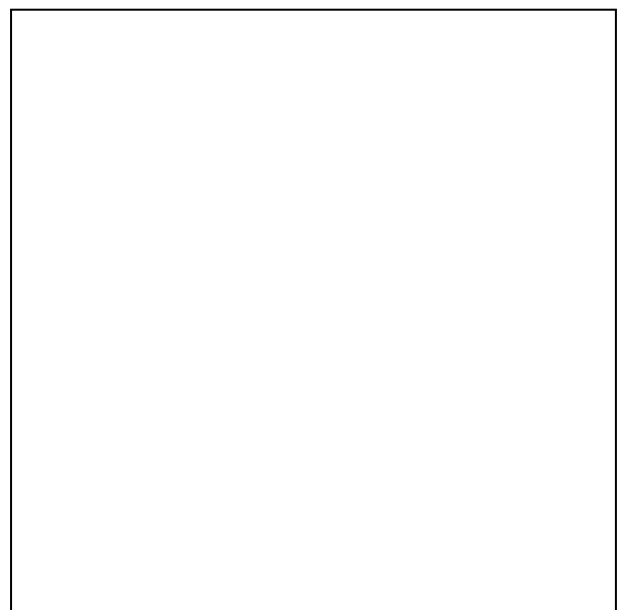
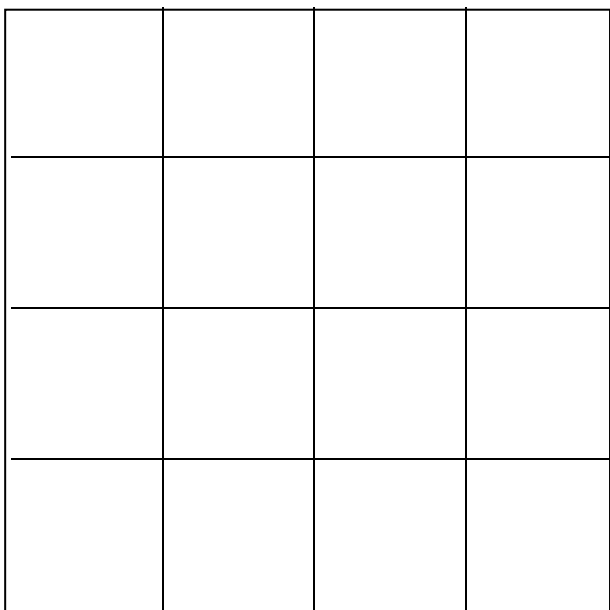
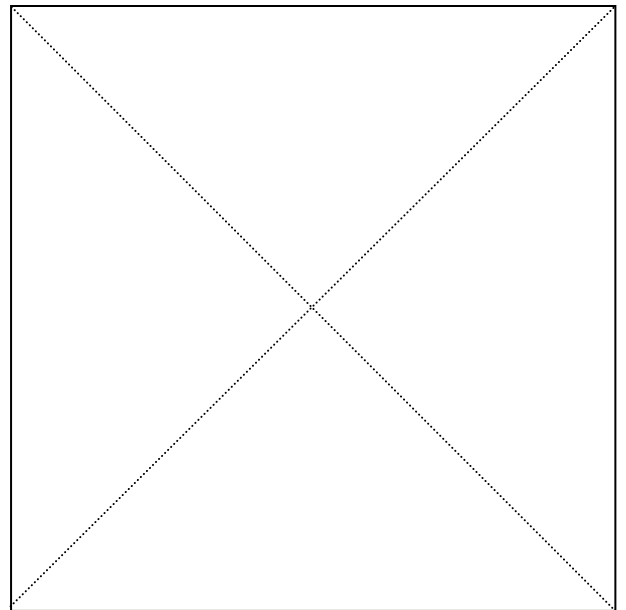
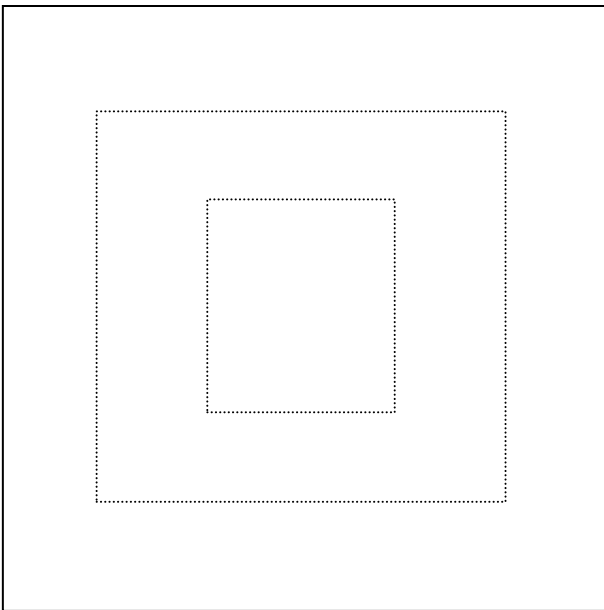
**A rubbing**

**?**

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# MAKING PATTERNS



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# LINE DRAWING & SHADING

A continuous line drawing  
of a flower, using a pen

A line drawing of unusual  
shaped leaves

A pencil-shaded tonal  
drawing of a whole plant

A pencil-shaded tonal  
drawing of a flower