

➤ AGES 2-6 <

Use these cards as inspiration to get out into nature and have some fun with family and friends!

You will find four cards, each with different nature craft activities!



A simple adventure you can go on in almost any outdoor location – from the park, to your own yard or balcony.

# 3 SPEAK UPI

You and your family (and friends!) can play with words, tell about adventures, or even make up a song!



# 2 PLAY ON!

Bring out the creative side in you!

# 4 GREEN UP!

Stewardship is the theme here, and in this activity, you will help animals or local areas thrive because of what you do!

HAVE FUN!

1 LEAP IN! AGES 2-6

### NATURE CRAFTS

## MAKE A LEAF PICTURE

Think about your favorite person, place or thing for inspiration, make your own leaf collages. Here's how:

- Head outside, preferably in the fall when there are lots of fallen leaves.
- **step 2** Collect leaves of different shapes, sizes, and colors.
- Sit someplace comfortable and arrange the leaves in pictures. You can make anything you want, but you might want to make a favorite animal.
- If you'd like to save your collage, bring the leaves home and arrange them on paper. A bit of glue will keep them in place.



PLAY ON!

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Nature
Network

#### NATURE CRAFTS

# CREATE A TIC—TAC—TOE BOARD

You know the classic game of Xs and Os? Now you can create your own game using a few natural objects around your home or in the park.

- Step 1 Begin by making a game board. Go on a little hike and look for four sticks. They should be a foot long or so, and all about the same length.
- The next step is finding your X and O game pieces. You'll need five of each kind. Since it might be hard to find a natural object in the shape of an X, you can look for any object that fits nicely in your grid. For example, you might play with acorns versus rocks. Or flowers versus leaves.
- Once you have gathered all your objects, put your game board together by laying two sticks in one direction, several inches apart, and two across them in the opposite direction.

  Your game board should look like this: #. Then challenge a friend to a game! Good luck and have fun!

  Children

SING OUT!
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#### NATURE CRAFTS

# CRAFT SOME POETRY

Nature has been inspiring poets since the beginning of time.

You try! If you've already made your own animal leaf collage, write a poem to go with it. Or think about the colors and sounds in nature. Or how it makes you feel. There aren't strict rules about writing poetry . . . it could even just be descriptive words on the page! It's fun to use descriptive words in writing.



GREEN UP!

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#### NATURE CRAFTS

## MAKE A PINECONE BIRD FEEDER

If you've never made a pinecone bird feeder, then now is definitely the time. It's a fun project that the birds will really appreciate. All you need is a pinecone, peanut butter, birdseed, and string.

- Go on a hike around your neighborhood or in a local park to find a pinecone. You might gather a few extra to make multiple feeders or to give one to a friend.
- Attach a pice of string or wire to your pinecone. Next, smear peanut butter all over the pinecone.
- Scatter birdseed on a plate or a piece of wax paper. Roll the pinecone in the birdseed.
- Now hang it up in a tree and wait for the birds to come along to find their treat.

NOTE: If you can't find a pinecone, find something else to smear with peanut butter and birdseed, and then hang it outdoors in a good place for birds to find it!

