



TE URU HOLIDAY ACTIVITY: *Imagination Station*

Larger than Life Critters

Paint and collage a beautiful leaf and place a larger than life insect within it

Suitable for pre-schoolers (with assistance) through to age 14

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Imagination Station

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YOU WILL NEED:

- Paints (acrylic) red, yellow, green, white, blue
- Paint brushes
- Paint palette or large plastic lid for mixing paints
- A pencil
- Cotton buds
- A3 card, or heavy paper or cardboard box panel
- Scissors
- Glue stick or PVA glue
- Felt tip pens
- Newspaper for covering your work surface
- Container for collage pieces
- Collage – old magazines, catalogue, fabric, stickers or interesting newspaper cuttings (collage pieces could be cut ahead of time and stored in a container)
- Research – find images of insects or download our [bug templates](#) or you could go for a hunt in your garden for leaves and insects. Take time to notice the different shapes of leaves. You might even gather a few extra leaves to draw later or try photographing them in interesting arrangements



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GUIDE

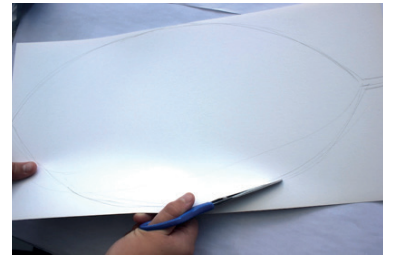
Take a stroll through your garden, talk about camouflage and how it works in nature. Enjoying making the delightful leaf and the bug(s) in one or a few sessions. Approximate activity time 2.5-3 hours. Don't forget to take a break!

First, create a safe space to work in, perhaps put some newspaper down. Have ready on hand:

- Pre-cut collage pieces in a container (younger children might need help)
- Images of bugs to refer to or a downloaded [A4 bug template](#)
- A few leaves to inspire your leaf shape

1. **DRAW** a pencil outline of a large leaf on your paper (approximately 40cm x 25cm)
2. **CUT** out your leaf shape
3. **MIX** colours for a background colour for your leaf. Have fun and experiment with colour - leaves come in so many colours (see a colour wheel for ideas)
4. **PAINT** your leaf with a paint brush. Use small amounts of paint and spread it around
5. **PAINT** the stem with a contrasting colour (one that stands out from the leaf colour)
6. **ADD** smaller brushstrokes of two or three different colours to the leaf. Remember to clean your paint brush between colour changes
7. **DRY** with hairdryer (like a leaf blower)
8. **CHOOSE** collage pieces, apply glue and carefully place on your painting. Look at all the different shapes you can create within your leaf

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9. **MAKE** brightly coloured spots (Pointillism) by dipping cotton buds in your paint and gently dabbing on your leaf. You can combine colours and layer spots on top of each other (go wild!)
10. **DRAW** an oversized bug or two (our one is 18cm long) You could draw your favourite (or your mum's least favourite) or try the downloadable bug templates
11. **THINK** about camouflage. Do you want your bug to be hiding in your picture or boldly standing out? You choose
12. **PAINT** your bug, let it dry, then use felt tips for lines and patterns
13. **ADD** cotton bud paint spots to match your leaf if you want to camouflage your bug
14. **GLUE** on a googly eye. Don't worry if you don't have an eye, use felt tips to draw an eye, or two, or eight! Bug dependent!
15. **WALK** your bug over to it's beautiful leaf. Decide where to place your bug and either glue it on or use Blu Tack for a moveable bug
16. **STAND BACK** and look at your creation. Well done!
17. **UPLOAD** your creation to social media (ask your parents) and be sure to tag us in: @teurugallery or #teuru
18. **SEND** us a photo: info@teuru.org.nz

Well done on completing your artwork!

We'll be uploading new activities regularly so be sure to keep an eye on our LEARN page for updates.

teuru.org.nz

