



Growing Colour Together is a natural dyeing project for WOVEN, a celebration of innovation in textiles across Kirklees, exploring the techniques and processes involved in natural dyeing and how they can be applied to textile art and making.

By getting involved you can learn about growing, foraging and harvesting plants that make natural dyes, learn about natural dyeing processes, and take part in workshops where you can use natural dyes to explore colour in textile art, design and print.

The next WOVEN festival will take place in June 2021

Anything you can forage and harvest now will contribute towards creating a showcase for natural dyeing processes and activities during the WOVEN festival in June 2021. We'll be in touch with more information about how we'll be collecting and what we'll be doing with everything you've harvested and foraged. Have fun and enjoy your foraging!

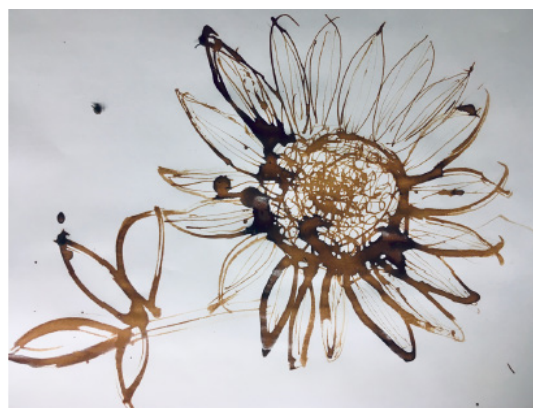
WOVEN

A CELEBRATION OF
INNOVATION IN TEXTILES

OBSERVATIONAL NATURAL FORM DRAWING

With Clare Grace

using Natural
Drawing Tools
& Natural Inks



Take inspiration from the drawings created by Clare Grace above.

DID
YOU
KNOW?

You can draw and paint using the things you find in a garden, on a walk and in a kitchen?

By using sticks, twigs, leaves and grasses to make pens and brushes, and using instant coffee as an ink, you can produce wonderful drawings that are lively and expressive and also Eco friendly.

Your task

We would like you to produce some beautiful flower and plant drawings using natural drawing tools, that you will make, and natural inks made from instant coffee.

Choose carefully

Carefully choose the flowers you wish to draw, look for interesting forms and strong pattern qualities.

It would be ideal if you could find flowers and plants that can produce natural dyes, like: sunflowers, dahlias, hollyhocks, marigolds, oak, acorns, onion flowers and seed heads, woad, safflowers, blackberries, elderberries, fennel...the list goes on.

Draw from real objects

It's always good to draw directly from real objects, but during the winter you will not find these flowers in the garden, so you may have to buy some flowers to draw and use some clear and detailed images to draw from.

It is important to look carefully for pattern in your flowers and plants and to translate what you see into drawings, look for strong bold lines and clear shape definition.

Collect flowers safely

Please take care when foraging. Plants and flowers can be poisonous and irritants so it's a good idea to wear gloves and make sure you know what is safe to collect. Always wash your hands well after handling foraged items.

Let's get started, PTO for instructions →

For information about how to get involved
woveninkirklees.co.uk

WovenInKirklees
Instagram Twitter Facebook

You will need



Flowers and plant material

Use these to draw from, ideally picked from your garden or carefully foraged, or shop bought.



Masking Tape



Aprons



Foraged plant materials.

This could be twigs, sticks, grasses, leaves, seed heads etc.



Instant Coffee



Jars



Images

You'll need to use these images to observe and draw from.



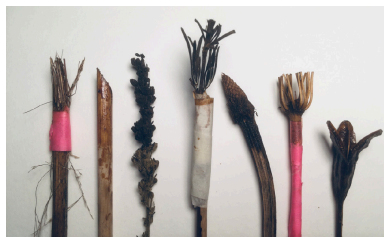
A3/A4 Paper



Scissors

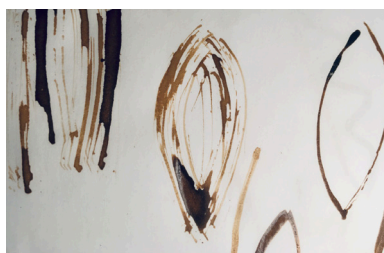
LET'S GET STARTED

STEP 1: Making drawing tools



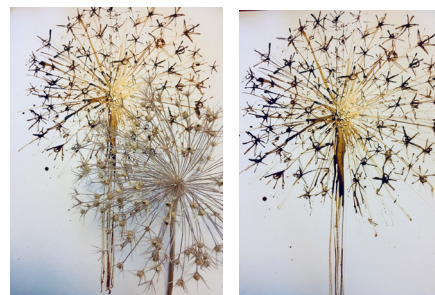
- Find firm sticks, stems, seed heads and plants that can make drawing implements.
- Use masking tape or paper tape to add other plant materials to the sticks and stems to make different types of tools to draw with.

STEP 2: Make coffee to draw with



- Put 10 large teaspoons of instant coffee into a jar, add hot water from the tap (you do not need boiling water, this makes it safer to use) to about 2cm depth and mix until the coffee has dissolved.
- Use a stick to try some on paper to see how dark it is (we want a good dark line) and add more if needed.

STEP 3: Drawing using the tools you have made



- Before you start, don't forget to write your name on the back of your piece of paper.
- Try out the drawing tools, dip them into your coffee ink and draw; what sort of line and marks do they give you?
- You are now ready to draw your flowers and plants.
- These drawings are going to be line drawings, so we can clearly see the shapes, patterns and textures of the flowers and plants you are drawing.

Things to think about when you're drawing

- **Look very carefully**, and gently turn the flower or plant around to find the most interesting views to draw.
- **Can you see patterns**, shapes and textures?
- **What shapes are the petals and leaves?**
- **What are the edges of the petals and leaves like?** Are they spiky, curvy, wavy, soft, hard?
- **Enjoy getting to know natural forms** through drawing, you may draw the same flower and plant over and over again, use different drawing tools to develop your drawings, you may also observe different qualities of shape, pattern and texture.
- **Experiment with various ways to make lines** and marks using drawing different tools.
- **Think about the lines you see**, are they thick and strong or thin and delicate or are they thick and thin? Can you see lines on the petal and on the leaves?
- **Play with scale**, make large and small drawings.
- **Remember it will take some time for your drawings to dry**, be careful not to smudge them and put them somewhere safe to dry, a drying rack is ideal for this.
- You may wish to add words written in coffee about the flowers and plants you are drawing, words about colour or pattern and what they make you feel. Only put words on a drawing if you really want to, drawings speak for themselves.
- Please write your name on one of your drawings using the coffee.

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