



NATURAL PIGMENTS FROM THE LEAVES AND FLOWERS OF WEEDS IN OUR GARDEN.

Title	Natural pigments from the leaves and flowers of weeds in our garden.
Skills	Creativity and craftsmanship Scientific knowledge
Topics	- Participation and citizenship - Therapeutic garden - Leisure Activities - Social cohesion - Education for Sustainable Development - Intercultural Dialogue - Intergenerational dialogue - Social inclusion
Target Groups	- boys and girls (3-11 years); - people with special needs; - young people (12-25 years);
Brief description	When it comes to biodiversity, it is essential to understand all the benefits of the plants in our garden, whether they are naturally occurring weeds or varieties we have sown. An interesting way to relate to them is through the technique of botanical printing, an ancient technique that consists of permanently capturing the natural pigments of leaves and flowers in organic fabrics such as cotton, silk, linen, among others.
Objectives	We perform a technique called Hapazome with which we discover the different natural pigments of the plants in the garden.
Materials	- Garden leaves and flowers - Natural fibre fabric/white paper - Hammer - Natural rock alum stone - Plastic bag
Implementation	Step by Step





1 - Collection

In this phase, you walk around the entire garden and, with great care and respect, collect different types of leaves and flowers to arrange them for the exercise.

2 - Remembered

Soak the fabric in water with organic soap for 24 hours at room temperature, then rinse and dry.

3 - Mordente

At this point we moisten the cloth, then in a pot we prepare a solution of water with flint in a proportion of 5% flint to the total weight of the cloth. The next step is to bring the pot to a simmer and cook the cloth for half an hour, stirring during the process. Do not increase the temperature, ideally the water should not boil. After that we lower the pot, cover and let it rest until the next day, after which we drain the cloth and put it to dry in the shade.

4 - The Fabric

At this stage we lay the fabric we will use on a table and on it we place the leaves and flowers we have selected, no matter the order, the important thing is that at this stage our creativity flows and we organise the design as we see fit.

5 - Plastic

At this stage we place an open plastic bag over the fabric where the flowers and leaves are located, then with the help of a hammer we press down on the plastic, with the intention of fixing the leaves and stems onto the natural fibre.

At this point it is recommended to do this carefully and patiently, little by little our leaves and flowers will release their dye and leave colourful shapes on our fabric.

6 - washing

At this point, the natural shapes and pigment are captured in our fabric, after which we can wash our fabric with a natural soap to remove residue, let it dry and our fabric is ready.





Evaluation	Identify the variety of plants in our garden that have natural pigmentation and what colours they have.
Tips	- This exercise can also be done on blank paper and a notebook can be created as a logbook. - Preferably use materials that can be recycled or reused.

