

Bark & Leaf Rubbing

Try This:

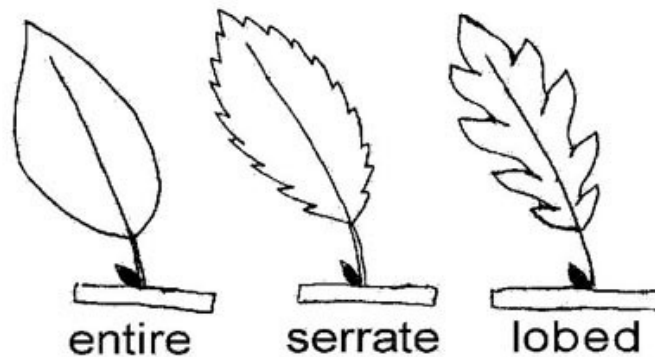
1. Find a leaf or bark sample and a crayon. Take the paper off of the crayon.
2. Place a piece of white paper over the leaf on a table top.
3. Hold the crayon so that you can use the flat side of it to rub it over the paper. The leaf pattern will appear. Hold on tight to your paper as you rub!
4. Be sure to go over the whole leaf.
5. Label your drawing to remember what you created a rubbing of!

Think About It:

- Does your leaf have lobes?
- Does your leaf have edges that look like teeth or a saw?
- Can you follow the leaf's veins from the stem out to different parts of the leaf? What do you think the veins carry?
- What pattern did the bark leave behind?

Want to know more?

Scientists describe leaves by looking at their shape, and their **margins** or edges. Some examples are **entire** (smooth, fairly straight edge) **serrate** (like teeth on a saw) and **lobed** (like an ear lobe!)



The veins transport food, water and energy between the leaves and the roots. They also help support the leaves.

The bark is the outer layer of a tree. It protects the other layers from insects, fungi and drying out. Younger trees usually have smooth bark. As a tree gets older it can become more rough and craggy. Cinnamon and cork are made from bark!

Did you know that leaves change color in the fall because the trees stop making food in their **chlorophyll** cells?

Chlorophyll is what makes leaves green. As it breaks down we can then see the leaf color underneath.