

GRAFIX® LESSON PLAN SERIES

Lesson 10: Nature Design Exploration with Clear-Lay.

Created by Lisa Thorpe.



Nature Design Exploration with Clear-Lay

This lesson can be done as a stand-alone art lesson or in conjunction with a nature science lesson. Either way this lesson provides positive results for many levels. A leaf is a wonderful flat object to trace, but anything flat will work – feathers, photos (self portraits) or found photos from magazines or art books.

MATERIALS

- Grafix Clear-Lay .005" Clear
- Paint pens in a variety of colors
- Acrylic paints in a variety of colors
- Brushes for paint
- Pallets or paper plates to squeeze paint on
- Tag board or mat board to mount on
- Double stick tape for mounting
- Something flat to trace: leaves, feathers, a photo

OBJECTIVES

Students will explore design and color using mixed medium techniques.

For grade levels K-12.

Instructions and materials are based upon a class size of 20–30 students. Adjust as needed.

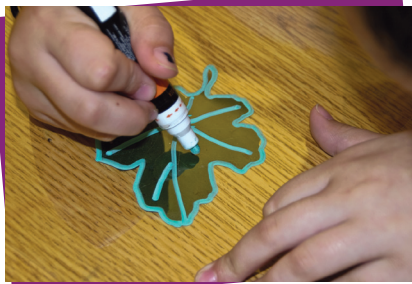
Grafix Clear-Lay

Ideal for overlays, stencils and protective coverings. Available in clear or transparent colors, in rolls, sheets and pads.





STEP 1



STEP 2



STEP 3



STEP 4

DIRECTIONS

1. For this lesson we used leaves as an inspiration. Students choose leaves they want to trace. If possible go for a walk and collect leaves as a class for this lesson. If not, supply a variety of sizes and shapes for the class to use.
2. Students place leaves under the Clear-Lay then trace the edge and veins with a paint pen. Repeat with different leaves and different colors until student is happy with design.
3. Let the paint dry (this just takes a few minutes), flip Clear-Lay over so that paint pen leaves are **face down**. Apply acrylic paints to the back-side of Clear-Lay. *It just takes about a dime size of color to paint each leaf and about a quarter size to paint the background.* Encourage them to try mixing colors on brush, i.e. a dab of orange and a dab of red to make the painting more dynamic. *Let dry before flipping over to see results.*
4. To prepare mounting, use colored tag board an inch and a half larger around than the Clear-Lay sheet. Using paint pens create a border for their leaf art.
5. Using double stick mounting tape, mount dried painting with leaf side up to plain or decorated backing board.

Management tips:

Have all the students trace leaves at the same time. When finished, have 8 students at a time at the painting table while other students are decorating their tag board frame. When space becomes available at the painting table students can switch. If you have limited time this project could be divided into 3 parts: Session 1 trace with paint pens, Session 2 paint with acrylics, Session 3 tag board frames.

**To achieve national standards 5, class discussion of finished art should be held. Discuss how different layouts and color choice created different design effects. Discuss contrast of dark and light and color and what experiments gave favorable results and what experiments gave unsatisfactory results.*

NATIONAL STANDARDS K-4, 5-8 and 9-12

Content Standard 1: Understanding and applying media, techniques, and processes

Content Standard 2: Using knowledge of structures and functions

Content Standard 3: Choosing and evaluating a range of subject matter, symbols, and ideas

Content Standard 5:* Reflecting upon and assessing the characteristics and merits of their work and the work of others