

# Leaf Rubbing

There are so many wonderful plants that call the East Bay Area home. Each one has a different role to play in our ecosystem and they all look a bit different too. Try out this fun activity to get an idea about how many different plants are in your own habitat!

## You'll Need

- different shaped leaves
- crayons with paper wrapping removed
- paper

## Directions

- 1) Find an open space with different plants around. This can be a backyard, sidewalk, park or common space. See if you can find three to five different shaped leaves on the ground.
- 2) Once you have your leaves, put one down on a hard surface and place a piece of paper on top. Holding the paper steady, use the long edge of the crayon to rub all over the top of the leaf. You should start to see different patterns on the leaf show through the paper.
- 3) Do this again with your other leaves and try to use a different color for each different leaf, if you can. How many different species did you find?
- 4) Once you're finished, you'll have a wonderful work of art that highlights the diversity of species in your habitat! Be sure to place leaves back in nature so decomposers can munch on them and return the leaves to the soil.

