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BLACKSBURG, VA.

PRINTS WITH PRINTER'S INK AND ROLLER

Materials Needed:

1. Fresh green leaves
2. Flat working surface
3. Pane of glass
4. White mimeograph paper-8½ x 11
5. Waxed paper
6. Scrap paper such as newspaper
7. Rubber ink roller (brayer)
8. Printer's ink, preferably green
9. Towel or cloth for pressing surface

The printer's ink may be ordered or purchased at most print shops or art supply stores. The roller or brayer may be purchased at art supply stores.

Cover the working area with newspaper and place the pane of glass, the towel or cloth, and the mimeograph paper in a row near one edge of the working area. Cover the towel or cloth with waxed paper.

Squeeze a pea-size dab of ink on the glass. With the roller spread the ink over the glass thereby evenly coating the roller. Take the inked roller from the glass and roll the ink on the waxed paper that covers the towel. The purpose of the towel under the waxed paper is to give a better impression of the veins of the leaf. Repeat this process until an area on the waxed paper larger than the leaf is evenly coated with ink. Then place the leaf bottom side down on the waxed paper. The leaf in that position is covered with a piece of paper and inked by gently rubbing the finger tips over all parts of the paper-covered leaf. For best results the rubbing should be circular with light even pressure.

Remove the paper and transfer the leaf inked-side down to the mimeograph paper. Cover the leaf with a clean piece of scrap paper and repeat the rubbing process. Be careful that the leaf does not move under the paper or double impressions will be made. Remove the paper and the leaf. The print is complete. The following information should be recorded on the completed print.

1. Common name
2. Scientific name
3. Name of collector
4. Where collected
5. Date collected

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HOW TO MAKE LEAF PRINTS

Steps for making leaf prints by two similar methods are outlined

PRINTS WITH THE INK STAMP PAD

Materials Needed:

1. Fresh green leaves
2. Flat working surface, such as a table
3. Stamp pad
4. White mimeograph paper - 8½ x 11
5. Scrap paper, such as newspaper

Stamp pads may be purchased in various sizes and colors. If only small ones are available, a large leaf may be inked by pressing a part of the leaf on the pad and then shifting and pressing the uninked part of the leaf.

To make the print the leaf is placed bottom side down on the stamp pad. The leaf in that position is covered with a piece of paper and inked by gently rubbing the finger tips over all parts of the paper-covered leaf. For best results the rubbing should be circular with light even pressure.

Remove the paper and transfer the leaf inked-side down to the mimeograph paper. Cover the leaf with a clean piece of scrap paper and repeat the rubbing process. Be careful that the leaf does not move under the paper or double impressions will be made. Remove the paper and the leaf. The print is complete. The following information should be recorded on the completed print.

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