



Curriculum-Linked Activities

Science Activities



1.1 Rubbings

Topic: Plant parts. You can create rubbings using stumps, bark and leaves. The rubbings are a permanent record of plants and can be used as decorations!

Curriculum Connections:

- **Grade 1:** Understanding Earth and Space Systems - Daily and Seasonal Changes
- **Cross Curricular Connection:** Visual Arts

Materials:

- Crayons or Artists charcoal
- Lightweight white paper
- Masking Tape
- Newspaper

Instructions for Leaf Rubbings:

1. Collect a variety of leaves; include different leaf shapes and edges, as well as simple and compound leaves.
2. Stack several layers of newspaper on a flat surface to make a pad for rubbing.
3. Arrange the leaves in an attractive pattern on the newspaper, taking up just enough space to fill a sheet of paper.
4. Place a sheet of paper over the arrangement; you may want to tape the paper in place
5. Use the full length of a crayon or piece of charcoal to lightly rub over the paper.

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1.2 Shadows

Topics: Drama, Light. Use shadows to experiment with the properties of light.

Curriculum Connections:

- **Grade 4:** Understanding Matter and Energy - Light and Sound
- **Cross-Curricular Connection:** Drama

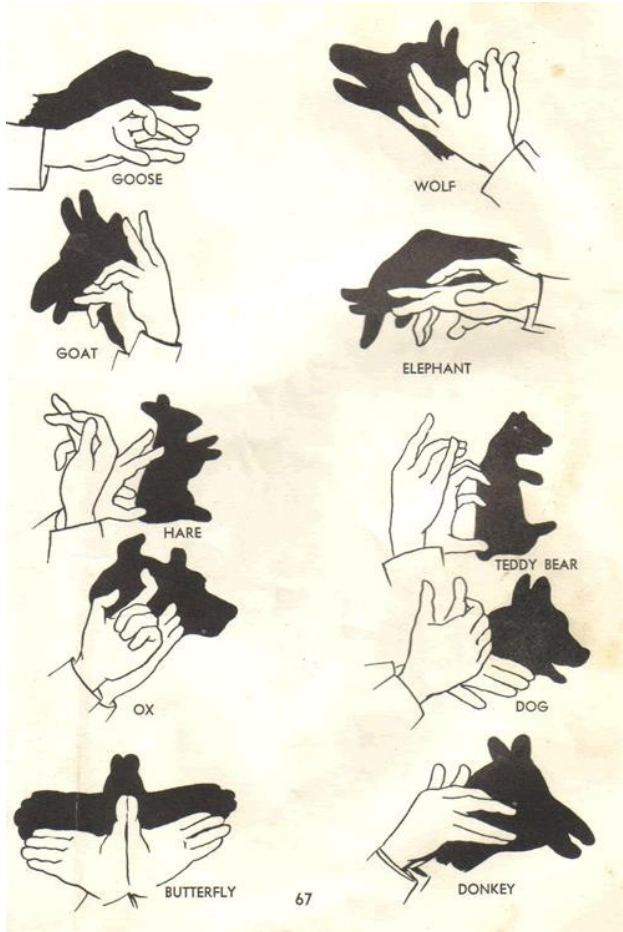
Materials:

- Light source (e.g. 100 to 300 watt light bulb without a shade, slide projector, flashlight)
- Screen (e.g. bed linens, sheets of white paper taped to the wall.)

Instructions:

Try several hand positions demonstrated below:

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Questions to Consider:

- Where is the darkest part of a shadow?
- How does moving your hand closer to or further from the light source affect the size of the shadow?
- What's the largest shadow you can make? The smallest? The most distinct?
- How does the shadow formed when your hand is parallel to the light source compare to one made when your hand is held at right angles to the light source?
- What is the longest or widest shadow you can make?