



Botany

HOW TO CREATE YOUR ELEMENTS

STORAGE

Once you've created and assembled the artists' herbarium, you'll need one or more shoeboxes to store them in.

CRAFT THE ELEMENTS

1. Antotype technique

- A. Get some spinach leaves, blackberries, cooked beets, marigold flowers, dark red dahlias, elderberries, or other vegetables, depending on the time of year. Blend and crush the leaves or petals immersed in a solution of water surgical alcohol.
- B. Filter to obtain a liquid free of impurities.
- C. Cut sheets of cotton paper in A5 or A6 format.
- D. Using a paintbrush, prepare the paper by applying three passes of colour, alternating vertical and horizontal strokes.
- E. Let the paper dry.
- F. Place a leaf or flower on each sheet prepared with the solution.
- G. Cover everything with a sheet of glass. Then, expose them to the sun for 45 minutes or an hour; in some cases, even a whole day may be necessary (UVA lamps can also be used).



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H. Remove the flower or leaf, and you will find its trace, a coloured shadow, imprinted on the paper.

Important, do not expose it to the sun again, or the trace will be erased.

2. Botanical plates proceedings

I. Select the flowers and plants to be "portrayed".

J. Prepare the appropriate A5-sized paper.

K. Draw with a pencil.

L. Colour in the colours of the chosen plant.

3. The artist's herbarium:

M. Print out the Annexe Botany_storytelling_EN

N. Fold page 1 of the Annexe Botany_storytelling_EN in half. This will serve as a cover for your artist's herbarium.

O. Fold page 2 of the Annexe Botany_storytelling_EN in half and insert it in your artist's herbarium cover.

P. Prepare 4 sheets in A4 format to be folded in half to create a book, thus consisting of 16 pages. Insert these pages in your artist's herbarium.

Q. Glue the anthotypes you had made, writing down which plants they are (where they grow, when, properties, when and where you collected them, etc.).

R. Glue your botanical tables, writing which plants you have represented and all the necessary information.



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POTENTIAL ISSUES

- Be careful; plant pigment can stain, so use gloves and an apron and cover your work surface.
- Make sure to collect enough plants to have a nice colour.

ALTERNATIVES

Resin herbarium

To make a different kind of herbarium that allows you to see the plants in 3D, you can dry the plants and pour resin around them to make a resin herbarium. This method preserves the plants intact and creates a very solid herbarium that will stand the test of time. To do this, you will need epoxy resin and a mould the size of your plant.



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