

Duns Flowerbed Trail

Creative Challenges



Welcome to our Duns Flowerbed Trail Creative Challenges. We have developed these challenges to help you to learn about and enjoy our Duns Flowerbed Trail. There is something for everyone. If you are not too keen on creative challenges then take a look at our 'Imaginative' and 'Research' challenge ideas. If you have any other fun challenges to suggest please do contact us on www.kdbm.org/contact-us

Some things to think about before you begin.

Some plants can be an irritant or toxic when smelt, touched or ingested. Parent/Guardian consent should be given before children participate in activities involving interaction with plants. Children should be supervised and wear protective gloves. The level of interaction with the plants is at the discretion of their supervising adult/s.

- If you are touching any natural materials it is important to avoid touching your face, eyes and mouth and to wash your hands afterwards. Please check with an adult before touching and smelling the plants, especially if you have allergies.
- Don't go too close to pollinators. Some of them may bite, nip or sting.
- Dress for the weather. Remember to take a jacket or a sunhat and sunscreen in case the weather changes.
- Make sure you don't harm, disturb or damage any plants, insects, wildlife or habitats.
- If you are collecting natural materials please don't take too much. Check first with your accompanying adult. Replace any materials that you don't use.

Make it!

Find out how to press flowers to create flat dried flowers. Make some pressed flowers and use them to create a poster to advertise the Duns Flowerbed Trail.

Design and make a piece of jewellery inspired by your favourite flower in the Flowerbed Trail.

Thank you to Girlguiding Duns and to Laura Akinrowo Wilding from 2nd Shadwell Girlguiding for their challenge ideas.

Use plasticine, self-hardening clay or paper mache to create a flower or leaf or a flower or leaf inspired sculpture.

Collect some dead or dying flower petals. Combine them with water to make your own flower perfume. Invent a name for your perfume and design a label for your jar or bottle of perfume.



Make a puppet or pair of puppets that are inspired by flowers. Create ways to make your flower puppets move and dance. Give your flower puppets names.

Create it!

Make a drawing, sketch or painting of your favourite flowers in the Flowerbed Trail. Find out about other artists who are famous for drawing and painting flowers. Can you find out about some Scottish artists who draw and paint flowers and plants? Have a try at painting and drawing your flowers in a similar style or your own unique style.

Look at the work of botanical illustrators such as Margaret Rebecca Dickinson who lived in the Scottish Borders. Visit the Scottish Society of Botanical Artists www.thesba.org Historical artists to look at who also painted flowers are Vincent Van Gogh, Claude Monet, Henri Matisse and Beatrix Potter. Make a presentation about your favourite flower artists. Show your presentation to a group of friends. Your presentation can be digital or paper based.



Take some photographs of your favourite flowers. Create a digital collage of the flowers you have chosen.

Find out about the 'colour wheel' and the difference between primary and secondary colours. Draw different coloured flowers to create a flower colour wheel.

How many different leaf shapes can you find? Create a repeat leaf pattern for a duvet cover, curtains, a blind or a piece of clothing, gift wrapping paper or a greetings card.

Look at and feel the difference between the back of a leaf and the front of a leaf. Use wax crayons to make leaf rubbings or use water based paint to paint some leaves and make leaf prints. Only use leaves that you find on the ground.

Thank you to Girlguiding Duns and to Laira Akinrowo Wilding from 2nd Shadwell Girlguiding for their challenge ideas.

Make a wall decoration or mobile based on twigs, leaves and flowers that will move in the breeze. Be sure to include a way to successfully hang up and display your decoration.

Make a piece of environmental art on the ground from found natural materials such as sticks, stones and dried leaves. Take a photograph or a video of your art piece.

Eat it!

Research a recipe that includes herbs. Bake or make your recipe and do a taste test with your friends or develop your own tasty recipe with herbs in it.

Bake some small cakes such as muffins or cupcakes. Decorate your cakes so that they look like little flowers.