

# Olivia's leaf mask

Autumn brings fantastic coloured leaves. A fun autumn tradition for me is making masks from pressed leaves. Why not try to make one too?



Take a walk around your neighbourhood or local park and collect some leaves. Make sure the leaves are clean, flat and not too dry. Put the leaves between two sheets of newspaper. Leave some heavy books on top of them for about 48 hours.

You will need:

- plain or coloured cardboard
- pencil or marker
- scissors
- hole punch
- long elastic band
- clear craft glue
- paintbrush
- 15 or more leaves



First, draw the shape of the mask onto the cardboard. Draw the outlines for the eyes too. Cut out the mask and the eye holes.



Next, cut a length of elastic to fit around your head. Make two holes with the hole punch. Thread the elastic through each hole, and tie it at each side.



Now cut the stems off the leaves. Brush glue on to the back of a leaf and stick it on the mask. Repeat with every leaf, making sure the eye holes are not covered.



When the glue is dry, place the mask between two sheets of newspaper, put a heavy book on top and leave it for 24 hours. **TOP TIP:** To make the mask stronger cover the leaves with glue and leave it to dry for another 24 hours without the newspaper on top.

Halloween, on 31st of October, is a great time to show off your leaf mask! To make the mask look spookier you could decorate it with glow in the dark paint!