

Junior- Outdoor Art Explorer

Step 1.

Compare indoor and outdoor performance art. This choice is done in two parts, one at the beginning of the badge and one at the end. At the start of the badge, hold a performance inside for your family—it could be a skit, song, or dance. At the end of your work on this badge, hold the same type of performance outdoors. Use the outdoor space to make some changes to your performance— maybe move around more to fill a larger space or step on rocks to make sure your voice is heard. How did the outdoor experience feel different to you? How did the sound change?

Step 2.

Make something wearable. Take a night walk with an adult to a place where you can get a good look at the sky. (It can be hard to see the night sky when you're around a lot of lights or tall buildings.) Then design a piece of clothing that represents what you saw. You can do it in any way you like, but you might try starting with a plain dark T-shirt and making a "reverse tie dye" print (using bleach instead of dye) or a "galaxy" shirt, which is made by dabbing fabric paint on the shirt with sponges and then flicking white paint over it to make "stars." If you use bleach for your project, make sure to wear rubber gloves and protective eyewear. <https://everydaybest.com/how-to-make-a-galaxy-shirt/>

OR

Make an impression. Using clay or salt dough, make an outdoor-themed impression. You might collect leaves or pinecones, or anything that's unique to the area where you live. Press your found objects into the clay or dough, then remove them and return them to the place where they were found. If you'd like to hang your impression when it's finished, make a hole at the top for string. (You may need to re-poke the hole a few times as your impression dries to keep it from closing up.) Your impression can be dried in the oven on low heat—ask an adult for help—or outside in the sun on a hot day.

For More FUN: Make your own salt dough!

Materials:

- 3 cups flour
- 1 cup salt
- 1 cup water (plus up to 1/2 cup extra water, if needed)
- Food coloring (optional)
- Electric mixer
- Drinking straws (optional)
- Parchment paper or aluminum foil

Instructions: 1 - Mix the flour and salt together in a bowl. 2 - Add 1 cup of water to the flour mix. To make colored dough, add 15 drops of food coloring to the water before mixing it into the dough. 3 - Use the electric mixer to mix the dough on medium speed until a ball forms. If the dough is dry, slowly add water (1 tablespoon at a time) until the dough comes together. 4 - Remove the dough; knead it until smooth. 5 - Form the dough into disks and make your impressions. If you want to hang your finished project, use a straw to poke a hole at the top. 6 - With adult help, preheat the oven to 275 degrees. 7 - Bake dough pieces on a foil- or parchment paper- lined cookie sheet for 2 hours. Cool completely before handling.

Step 3.

Make rainy day music. How do sounds change as rain gets heavier and lighter throughout the day? If it's a thunderstorm, how does it sound different as the storm gets closer and farther away? Then try to recreate the sounds of a rainstorm with music. If you play an instrument or like to sing, you can do it on your own, otherwise try to create a rainstick with these directions.

Materials

- Paint –pens or markers (optional)
- Masking tape
- Aluminum foil
- 1/2 cup rice
- 1/4 cup un-popped popcorn or dry beans
- Glue stick
- Kraft paper
- Paper tube, like the kind from wrapping paper or paper towels (the longer the tube, the longer the rain sound)
- Scissors

Instructions:

1. Wrap kraft paper around the tube and trim it to size with about a 1/2-inch overlap. 2. Paint and decorate the kraft paper. 3. Cover one end of the tube with masking tape. 4. Cut a piece of an aluminum foil that is about 1 and 1/2 times the length of the tube. 5. Crunch the aluminum foil into a long thin shape, then twist it around a broom handle or dowel to form a coil. 6. Remove the coil from the dowel and gently tug it until it is a little longer than the length of the tube. Twist the coil into the tube. 7. Pour the rice and un-popped popcorn into the tube. 8. Put masking tape over the other end of the tube. Double up the masking tape on both ends of the tube to add strength. 9. Lay the tube on the undecorated kraft paper. Add glue to the long edge of the kraft paper and attach the tube to the paper.



10. Add more glue to the kraft paper and continue rolling until the tube is covered. Let the glue dry completely.

Step 4.

Play with light. Find an outdoor space that you love and photograph it at three different times of day. How does the light change the photo? What happens to the shadows? Which photo is your favorite and why?

Step 5.

Design a bird, bat, or owl house. Houses for flying friends are not just useful—they can also be works of art. Design a bird, bat, or owl house that will be a welcome shelter and also add to the beauty of nature.

For More FUN: Build your house!

OR

Design a terrarium. A terrarium is a miniature garden inside a container. Sketch or paint a design for a terrarium that reminds you of your favorite outdoor space.

For More FUN: Bring your sketch or painting to life by making your terrarium. Try upcycling a container that's no longer being used, like a clear bottle or Mason jar. Upcycling means finding a new way to use an object so it's not thrown away.

*****To complete this badge- email a photo or short video of your girl doing Step 3 to cmartin@girlscoutsoaz.org**

You can purchase Badges at our online store <https://www.girlscoutshop.com/SOUTHERN-ARIZONA-COUNCIL>