



Texture Detectives

Indoor/Outdoor • 5–25 minutes • Art extension



Overview

Explore natural materials with your sense of touch and practice using descriptive words.



Get Ready

Suggested Supplies

- ✓ Collect a few safe, clean natural items such as leaves, feathers, pine needles, sticks, acorns, seed pods, or bark pieces.
- ✓ A small box with a lid, paper bag, or sock for hiding objects.



Set up the Topic

Today we're going to explore nature with our senses, especially our sense of touch! Let's use our hands and fingers to feel the different textures of natural materials. We have to be careful to only touch things that won't hurt us.



At a Glance Steps

Step 1:

Collect natural items with different textures and sizes from a yard, park, or sidewalk, being careful to avoid anything sharp or irritating.

Step 2:

Touch and hold natural items, describing how they feel—soft, rough, bumpy, prickly.

Step 3:

Play a guessing game by hiding objects in a bag or box. Without looking, children describe how the item feels and try to guess what it is.



Step 4:

Place paper, paint, and natural items in a box or bag, shaking it to create colorful, textural art.



Children Are Working On

Using senses to explore and describe

Strengthening motor skills by gripping, squeezing, and holding

Building vocabulary

Asking questions and making predictions

Practicing patience, listening, and turn-taking

Feeling confident exploring nature through play

Try This!



Add a language twist by introducing Spanish words for the items or textures you explore—like stick (palo), leaf (hoja), soft (suave), or rough (rugoso). Using new words while touching and sorting objects builds language skills.