

Tactile Art Self-Portrait Activity

Materials Needed:

- Something for your background – this can be a piece of construction paper, a canvas, a piece of cardboard, or whatever else you have available!
- Glue (glue stick not recommended, but will do if nothing else!)
- Outside materials – this can be sticks, leaves, moss, stones, grass, or whatever else you can find!

Anything else you may want to add! Let your creativity run free.

Instructions:

1. Choose your background, the sturdier, the better! A piece of paper will work just fine, but be extra careful moving it around.
2. Make sure to get permission from an adult, and then you're ready to collect your outside materials! Go outside and gather up any things you can find that may be useful in creating your tactile self-portrait. Don't forget to Make the World a Better Place – try to leave living things like flowers and plants alone and only pick them if you intend to use them!
3. Once you've gathered your materials, bring them inside and begin laying them out on your background. Use the things you find to create a portrait of YOU! Your portrait can be just your face, or it can be head-to-toe, you choose! You can use your materials to show your hair, face, eyes, and/or clothes.
4. Once you have created your portrait and are confident in how it looks, start gluing your pieces down! A glue stick may be hard to use depending on the materials you find, so something stronger like Elmer's glue or a hot glue gun may be best if you have them available.
5. After all of your pieces have been glued down, lay your piece in a safe place to dry for at least 1 hour. Be careful moving your piece around, and make sure your glue gets plenty of time to dry!

Other sources of inspiration/examples:

Maybe a self-portrait isn't your thing, don't worry! Tactile art can be used to create ANYTHING!

You can also use your outside materials to create a landscape scene, a picture of an animal, your house, or whatever else inspires you! The opportunities truly are endless!



Be sure to share with us your creation by using the hashtag #GirlScoutsAtHome and #GSArtShow, and tagging us @gswcf on TikTok, Instagram, or Facebook!