

CREATE YOUR OWN LEAF GARLAND

SUPPLIES:

- SCISSORS
- YARN, STRING, OR TWINE
- PAPER
- COLORING SUPPLIES OR PAINT & PAINTBRUSHES
- GRAPHITE PENCIL
- TAPE

TIME:

45-60 MINUTES

AGES:

2ND-6TH GRADE

ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION:

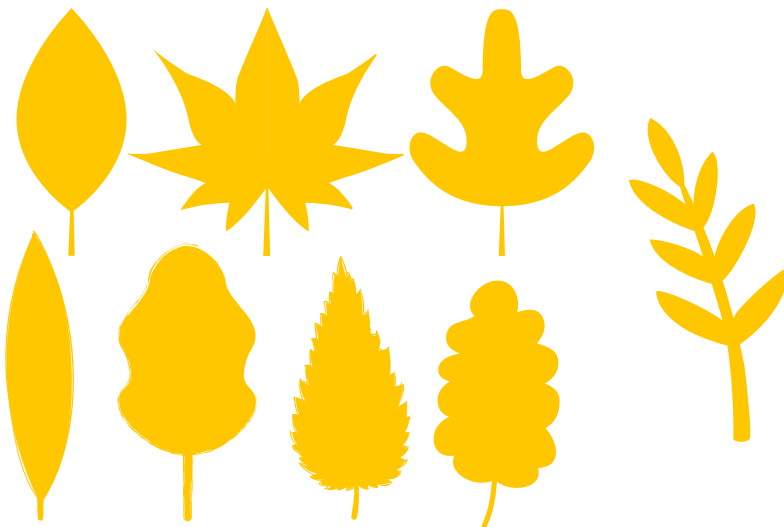
CREATE A FUN AND FESTIVE LEAF GARLAND YOU CAN USE TO DECORATE YOUR HOME. ON THE BACK SIDE OF THE GARLAND, WE WILL LEARN DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE LEAF!



STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE

STEP 1

ON YOUR SHEETS OF PAPER, DRAW A VARIETY OF LEAVES IN THE SHAPES BELOW. DRAW EACH LEAF SO IT IS ABOUT THE SIZE OF YOUR HAND, FROM WRIST TO FINGER TIPS.



STEP 2

USE YOUR COLORING SUPPLIES TO CREATE FUN DESIGNS INSIDE OF YOUR LEAF SHAPES.



STEP 3

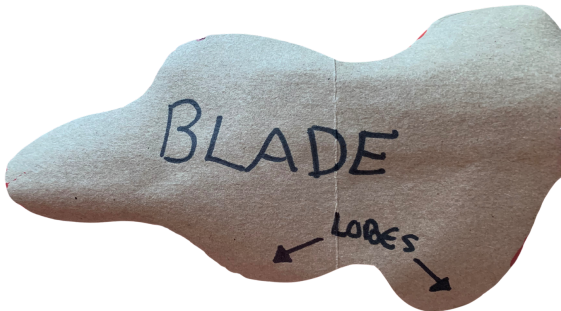
USE YOUR SCISSORS TO CUT OUT YOUR LEAF SHAPES.



STEP 4

FLIP OVER YOUR LEAVES SO THAT THE BLANK SIDE IS FACING UP.

CHOOSE ONE LEAF LIKE THE ONE BELOW. THIS IS A SIMPLE LEAF BECAUSE IT HAS A SINGLE **BLADE**, THE **FLAT GREEN PART OF THE LEAF**. LABEL THE SURFACE OF THE LEAF "BLADE."



YOU'LL NOTICE THE EDGE OF THIS LEAF IS WAVY. WHERE THE LEAF WAVES OUT, LABEL THESE PARTS "LOBES."

STEP 5

CHOOSE ANOTHER LEAF THAT LOOKS SIMILAR TO THE ONE BELOW. ON ONE OF THE LEAVES, WRITE THE WORD "LEAFLET."



A **LEAFLET** IS EACH OF THE LEAF-LIKE STRUCTURES THAT, TOGETHER, MAKE UP A COMPOUND LEAF. A COMPOUND LEAF HAS MULTIPLE LITTLE LEAFLETS GROWING FROM A SINGLE STEM.

STEP 6

CHOOSE ONE LEAF LIKE THE ONE BELOW. ON THAT LEAF, DRAW A LINE DOWN THE MIDDLE. LABEL THIS LINE "MIDRIB."



THE MIDRIB PROVIDES SUPPORT TO THE LEAF AND HELPS TRANSPORT FLUIDS.

STEP 7

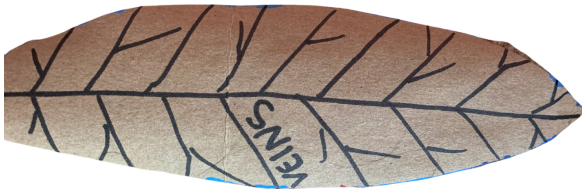
TAKE A LEAF LIKE THE ONE BELOW. WRITE THE WORD "PETIOLE" WITH AN ARROW THAT POINTS TOWARD THE BOTTOM OF YOUR LEAF.



THE PETIOLE CONNECTS THE LEAF TO THE STEM.

STEP 8

GRAB A LEAF THAT LOOKS LIKE THE ONE BELOW. DRAW THE MIDRIB ON YOUR LEAF. THEN DRAW SMALLER LINES BRANCHING OUT FROM THE MIDRIB. LABEL THESE LINES "VEINS."



VEINS MOVE WATER FROM THE PETIOLE TO THE REST OF THE LEAF. THEY ALSO MOVE SUGARS FROM THE LEAF TO THE REST OF THE PLANT.

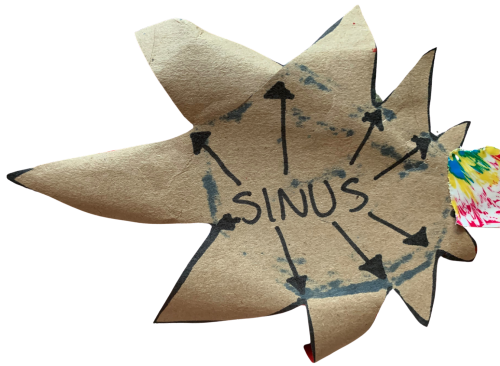
STEP 9

NEXT, GRAB YOUR LEAF WITH THE JAGGED EDGES. THE OUTER EDGE OF A LEAF IS ALSO CALLED THE LEAF MARGIN. WRITE "MARGIN" AND DRAW LINES TO INDICATE IT **DESCRIBES THE EDGE OF THE LEAF.**



WRITE THE WORD "SERRATED" ALONG THE OTHER EDGE OF THE LEAF. **SERRATED DESCRIBES LEAVES WITH JAGGED EDGES-LIKE THE BLADE OF A KNIFE.**

STEP 10



PICK UP YOUR LEAF LIKE THE ONE BELOW. NOTICE HOW PARTS OF THE LEAF GO IN AND OTHER PARTS GO OUT.

A SINUS IS A PART OF A LEAF WHERE THE EDGES GO IN, WHICH HAPPENS IN-BETWEEN TWO LOBES. WRITE THE WORD "SINUS" IN THE MIDDLE OF THE LEAF AND DRAW AN ARROW TO EVERY PART OF THE LEAF THAT GOES INWARD.

STEP 11



TAKE YOUR LAST LEAF. WRITE "APEX/TIP" TOWARD THE TOP POINT OF YOUR LEAF.

THE LEAF APEX IS SIMPLY THE TIP OF A LEAF. IT IS THE POINT OPPOSITE THE PETIOLE.

STEP 12

LAY OUT YOUR LENGTH OF STRING AND CUT 8 SMALL PIECES OF TAPE.



ONE BY ONE, TAPE YOUR LEAVES TO THE STRING SO THAT THE COLORFUL SIDE IS SHOWING.

STEP 13

HANG UP YOUR GARLAND SOMEWHERE YOU'LL ENJOY SEEING IT!

RECYCLING TIP!

IF YOU HAVE ANY OLD PAPER GROCERY BAGS LAYING AROUND, YOU CAN USE THOSE FOR YOUR LEAVES INSTEAD OF PAPER!