GREENBURGH — WEEK 7

Week 7: Scavenger Hunt

Putting It All Together

Station Setup

At each table station (shared by a small group of 4–5 kids), set up the following:

- The Paper Base: 1–2 sheets of thick white cardstock per child.
- The Drawing Tools: Pencils, colored pencils, or oil pastels shared in the center of the table.
- The Cutting & Detail Tools (Optional): Scissors and markers for adding details.
- The Foraged Treasures: A small basket or tray to hold fallen leaves.
- Note: You don't need glue, paint, or liquid anything for this activity!

Lesson Plan

1. Introduction & Hook (5 Minutes)

- Introduce Yourself: "Hi everyone! Today we are going to explore the hidden textures of nature."
- Observe a Leaf: Hold up a single leaf. "What do you notice about this leaf?" (Let them point out shape, lines/veins, texture, and size).
- Explain: "Every leaf has its own unique patterns and shape. Today we're going to use those natural patterns to create our own artwork."
- Discussion Note: Briefly mention that leaves are important because they help plants capture sunlight and make food for the plant.

2. The Instruction Walkthrough (5 Minutes)

- Demonstrate: Place a leaf underneath a piece of cardstock with the textured/veined side facing up. Hold the paper still with one hand.
- Show the Technique: Take your pencil/colored pencil/oil pastel and hold it sideways. Gently rub over the area where the leaf is hidden underneath until the shape and veins appear.
- Show Examples of Do's and Don'ts:
- Don't: Use the sharp point of the pencil to draw over the leaf.
- Do: Hold the pencil or colored pencil sideways and gently shade over the leaf to reveal its texture.

3. Creating the Artwork (32 Minutes)

Walk the kids through the steps altogether:

- Step 1 (The Outdoor Forage: 5–7 Minutes): Take the kids outside to find 5–7 fallen leaves each. Remind them: "Only collect leaves that are already on the ground. We don't pick leaves from living plants!" Encourage them to find different sizes, shapes, and textures.
- Step 2 (Discovering Patterns): Back at the tables, give everyone a fresh sheet of cardstock. Kids place their leaves underneath the paper with the veined/textured side facing up, then gently rub over the leaf using the side of their coloring tool.
- Step 3 (Building the Artwork): Kids create their artwork using their leaf rubbings. Tell them: "You can make a picture, a pattern, an animal, a landscape, or anything you want!" They can overlap leaves, use different colors, rotate leaves, or draw extra details around their rubbings.
- Instructor Check-In (As they work):
- For quick finishers: Hand them another piece of cardstock and challenge them: "Can you make a completely different design using different leaves?"

4. Reflection & Display (5-7 Minutes)

- The Reflection Question: Ask a few kids: "What did your leaf rubbing become?" or "Which leaf made the coolest pattern?"
- Environmental Takeaway: "Today we used leaves that had already fallen from plants instead of picking living leaves. Even something as simple as a fallen leaf can have really beautiful patterns and textures."

5. Clean-Up (3 Minutes)

- Collect pencils, colored pencils, oil pastels, and markers.
- Have the kids return the leaves outdoors when finished and collect any paper scraps.
- Collect finished artwork to display or send home!