

ACTIVITY: MAKING PAINTS FROM PLANTS

MATERIALS

- Your choice of vegetables for making different colors. Some examples are: turmeric root for yellow; purple cabbage for blue, purple, or pink; coffee for brown; spinach for green; beets for red.
- Cutting board & knife
- Cheesecloth or old metal coffee filter
- Funnel
- Small pots
- Cups for paint
- Watercolor brushes and paper

DIRECTIONS

- Roughly chop vegetables, one color at a time.
- Place the vegetables for each color in their own pot, with water using a rough ratio of 1/3 cup vegetable & 2/3 cup water
- Bring the water to a boil and cook the pigment down until it is a color you like.
- Let the pot cool.
- Place the funnel over the container where you'll store the paints and drape the cheesecloth inside the funnel.
- Pour your paint through the cheesecloth to remove chunks.

WHAT NEXT?

- Create watercolor paintings with your new paints!
- See how your paints change color over time.
- Try experimenting with different vegetables and fruits, and even mixing them together to create more colors.

Share photos of your creations on Instagram:
[@williamsartmuseum](#) #museumforaging