

Using Dried and Pressed Plant Material in Botanical Arts

Materials provided:

- Paper
- Glue
- Craft Tweezers
- Paintbrush
- Toothpicks
- Dried Plant Material
- Photo of image
- Outlined photo of image
- Pattern pieces

Materials required:

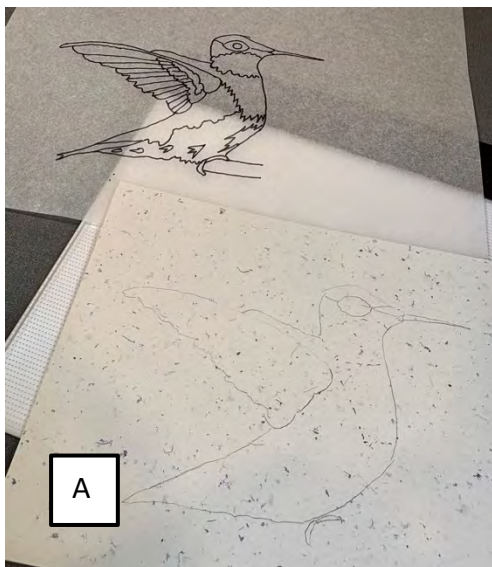
- Very sharp, fine scissors
- Reading or magnifying glasses
- Portable tabletop lamp



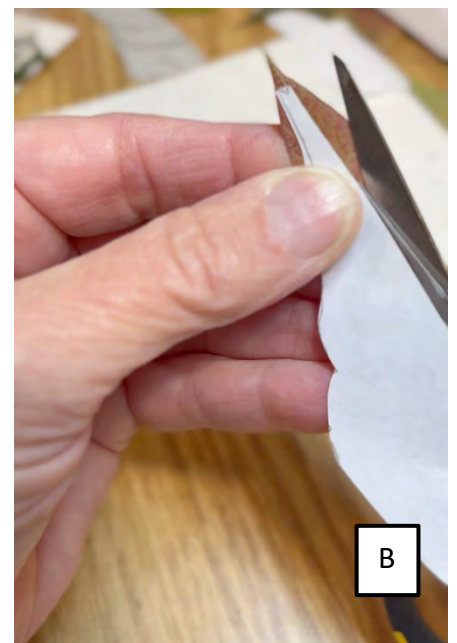
To make your own pattern:

1. Choose an image and print two copies in color. One copy is for reference.
2. Using a fine line pen, trace around the major visual components of the image, focusing on blocks of color rather than the tiny details.
3. Using tracing paper and pencil, trace all the lines created in #2.
4. Divide the image into larger pieces. In our project, it is the body, the front wing, and the back wing. Trace these onto paper to create pattern pieces. Number so you know which side is up.

What we'll be doing in this workshop:

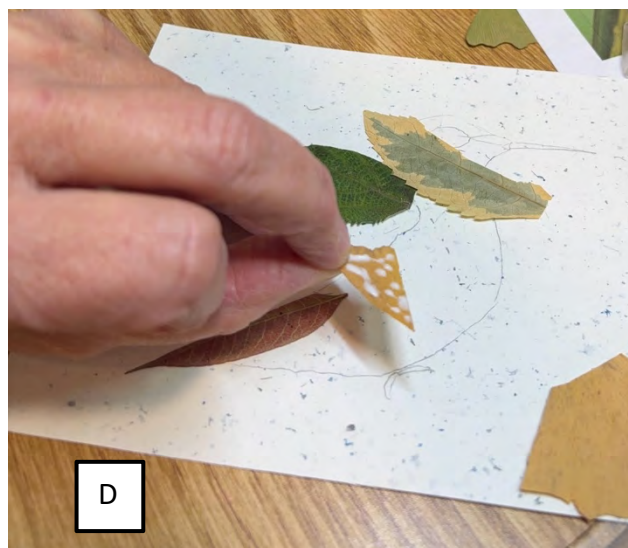


1. Cut out the pattern pieces. Trace pattern pieces very lightly with pencil onto the background paper. (A)



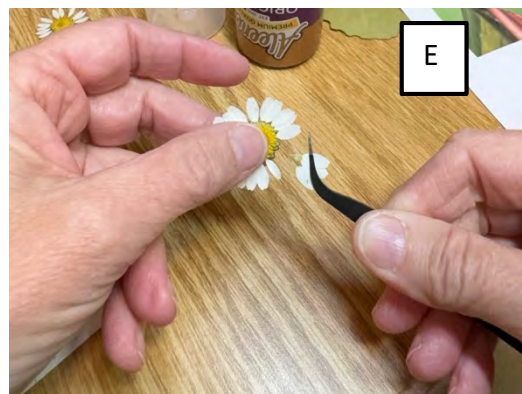
2. Use the pattern pieces to trim dried plant material to size. Begin with larger areas. We'll add details later. (B)

3. Using tweezers, gently lay out on paper. Place pieces from back to front: First place the components that are furthest from you, and work toward the parts that are closest to you. (C)



4. Apply glue to the back side of the plant material and lay into position on the paper using tweezers. You may need to use a toothpick or paintbrush to apply to small areas. (D)

5. Continue trimming, laying out, and gluing components, adding details as you go. Note: Be open to deconstructing plant material for the perfect details. (E & F)
6. For the beak, I glued together the needles in a pine fascicle, and cut it to size when dry, before gluing it in place.
7. For the eye, I painted a coriander seed with black acrylic paint, then added a tiny dot of white. Adhere the seed to double sided tape so it won't roll away while painting.
8. If you like, add metallic shimmer with Bella Rose metallic wax, using a paint brush. A little goes a long way!



Resources:

Dried and Pressed Plant Material: GeminiAngieShop on Etsy

Ailene's Tacky Glue

