

Land art



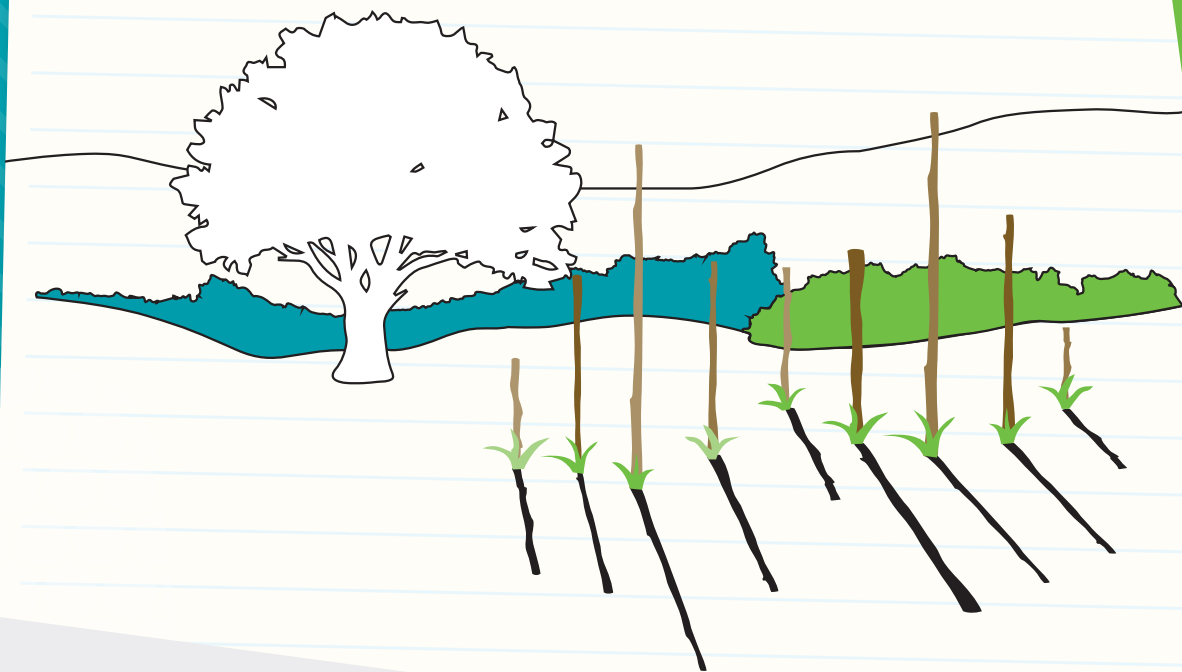
Exploring
nature



45 mins



Challenge
yourself



Aim of activity

Create your own artwork, inspired by your local landscape and using only natural materials.

What you'll get out of it

- Understand your local landscape.
- Learn about land art.
- Be resourceful with natural materials.
- Work as a team.

What you'll need

- An outside space
- Pens and paper
- String or tape
- Access to natural resources
- Examples of land art printed out (optional)



WE DISCOVER, WE GROW

Girlguiding



Whether they create art directly from the earth, or by arranging natural materials into 3D masterpieces, land artists incorporate their work into their surroundings.

What to do

1 You are going to create an art installation that reflects your local landscape. You can use any natural materials you can find, and you'll be given string or rope to use if you want.

Discuss your local area and its landscape. Write down any words that you think describe it.

Land artists

Land artists use a huge variety of materials and locations to create installations that reflect and enhance the landscape. Here are some examples.

Richard Long: An award-winning artist who creates pieces out of stone and mud on a huge scale. He is especially fond of spirals using contrasting colours and vast landscapes.

Cornelia Konrads: Works in forests creating suspended installations between trees and walls. She uses feathers, logs and leaves to make the spaces come to life.

Unknown: There are many pieces of land art that date back thousands of years. The Uffington White Horse, for example, is 110 metres long and can be seen for miles.

2 Get into groups of three or four. Look at the list of words and spend five minutes discussing what kind of installation you would like to make. What materials will work well?

3 Go outside and look for a space to build your artwork. You don't have to build it directly on the ground; you could use spaces between trees, tree roots or bushes. Once you've chosen a good spot, sketch out your ideas. When you agree on one, start collecting natural materials to make your artwork. Remember, you can only use natural materials (except for the string/tape to hold them together). You have ten minutes!

4 You now have 20 minutes to create your installation.

5 When your time is up, present your installation to the other groups. Explain what inspired you and what it represents.

6 When each team has presented, if it's safe to do so leave your land art for others to enjoy. However, if it could be a hazard to others, any animals or the area, make sure you dismantle your artwork and return the items to the places you found them, removing any tape or string.