

# How to make a Herbarium

## You will need

2 pieces of thick card

Piece of nice paper (this can be patterned, coloured or plain A4 size)

Plant specimens, leaves and flowers

Pens or pencils

Glue

Newspaper/ tissue

Something heavy (like a pile of books)

1. Collect some flowers / leaves from your garden or when you are on a walk (ask permission before you take from someone's garden, but do not pick wild flowers some are protected by law\*)
2. Make a list of the plants you collected, and where you collected it from. If you don't know the names see if you can find out by asking someone else, use a book, magazine or the internet, or send a pic to Mrs Owen and I'll see if I can help identify it
3. Wash your hands after you've handled the specimens
4. Lay down one piece of card then place a piece of newspaper or some tissue on top
5. Place the flowers and leaves on the paper so they don't touch (if your flower has a thick base under the petals cut it carefully away with scissors but keep hold and lay down the petals as they were arranged before)
6. Lay another piece of newspaper or tissue on top of the plants
7. Put your second piece of card on top of the paper
8. Wash your hands again
9. Put your 'plant stack' somewhere where it won't be in the way, disturbed or moved
10. Place something heavy on top of your plant stack (like some heavy books) and leave it so the plants dry out. This should take about a week
11. After a week you can put the books away and 'open' your plant stack, remove the top layer of cardboard and paper
12. If your specimens are nice and dry and 'flat' you can now assemble your herbarium
13. Take your 'nice' paper and arrange the specimens on the page
14. When you are happy with the display, write the date and your name on the paper and carefully glue each piece into place
15. You can make more than one herbarium; make observations as to what new plants you see, or changes to the ones you already collected. Make a new Herbarium every 2 weeks, and you will have a lovely keepsake over this time

Check out 'herbarium projects' on the internet for some more ideas

\*All the plants in the pictures were collected from Mrs Owen's garden



1. Lay cardboard on flat surface



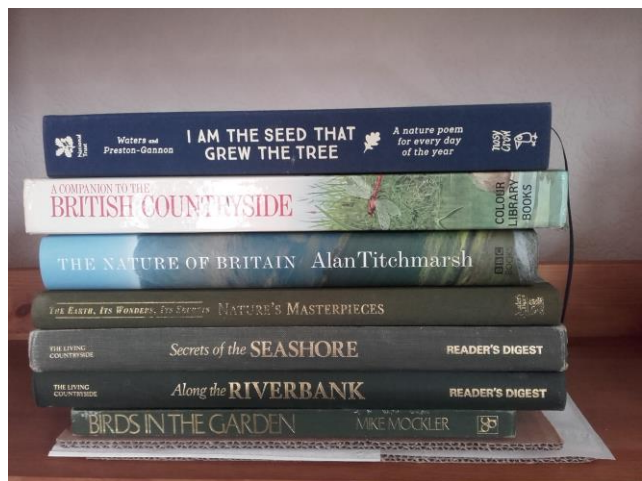
2. Place specimens on top of tissue or newspaper



3. Put more tissue on top



4. Form a sandwich by putting another layer of cardboard on top



Press your specimens with heavy weight and leave for a few days before assembling your herbarium