DIY

Fall Photo Frames

VISIT (INDNEWS.ORG/FRAME to see a demonstration of this activity online!

Fall is a wonderful time to take a walk outside in nature. As you walk, see how many different animals you see, from birds to insects. Make a list of what you see, write a poem, take photographs, or create a drawing. Collect twigs, leaves, acorns, or other items of interest and bring them home. Press any flowers or leaves that are not already dry by placing them between two paper towels and weigh them down with heavy books until they are dry. Use your collected items to create and decorate a twig photo frame and then frame your list, poem, photograph, or drawing and give it a title.

How to Make a Twig Frame

Step 1: Gather the materials you will need:

12 twigs that are about the same size • Twine or string • Scissors Cutting tool to cut the twigs – ask if an adult can help! • Glue • A picture (to put into the frame) Transparent baking paper (to attach the picture to)

Step 2: Separate your twigs into four piles with three twigs in each pile.

Step 3: Take the twine and tie one end to a twig. Wrap the twine around one pile of the twig(s) a few times.

Step 4: Place a second pile of twigs under the first pile so the piles make an "X."

Step 5: Wrap the twine around the second pile of twigs in the opposite direction to hold the "X" together.





Step 6: Place the other two twig piles so that all of the piles make a rectangle shape for the frame.

• The first two corners will be the hardest since the twigs will move while you are wrapping them. If possible, have a friend or an adult help you tie the sides of the frame together.

Step 7: Cut baking paper to a size slightly larger than the photo, poem, or artwork you will put in the frame.

Step 8: Glue the back of the artwork to the baking paper. Let the glue dry completely.

Step 9: Glue the baking paper to the back of your twig frame on the right and left sides, with your picture facing out.

Step 10: Glue other items you found from nature onto the frame.

Step 11: Decorate an empty shelf or wall with your beautiful new twig frame!

