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Nature's Art Box: From t-shirts to twig baskets, 65 cool projects for crafty kids to make with natural materials you can find anywhere

Laura C. Martin

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Laura C. Martin : Nature's Art Box: From t-shirts to twig baskets, 65 cool projects for crafty kids to make with natural materials you can find anywhere before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Nature's Art Box: From t-shirts to twig baskets, 65 cool projects for crafty kids to make with natural materials you can find anywhere:

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projects she will be able to complete using natural ...By Darlene UnderwoodI bought this for my 9 year old grand daughter. She's thrilled with all of the fun projects she will be able to complete using natural items found in our woods and fields.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. great projects to do in hereBy yayagreat projects to do in here. i bought the book because i had seen it before, so it wasn't bought sight unseen.

Take your child's creativity outside! Laura C. Martin offers 65 art projects that kids can make with materials found right in their backyard. There's no limit to the imaginative possibilities as children mix paints from colorful flower blossoms, dig clay for molding elf-sized furniture, and craft functional twig baskets. Cultivating a respectful engagement with nature while developing artistic skills, *Nature's Art Box* is an inspiring handbook for the next generation of expressive and conscientious stewards of the earth's resources.

From School Library JournalGrade 4-8-Martin contends that nature provides us with an abundance of art supplies and she invites readers to make use of these bounties in these 65 projects. She classifies the activities according to the material required: vines, twigs, cones, and moss; gourds, pods, husks, and seeds; clay, stones, sand, and shells; paints, inks, and dyes; flowers and leaves; and stamps, stencils, molds, and seals. Each chapter includes information about historical and ethnic uses for the natural substances. Activities are rated by level of difficulty; all have easy-to-follow instructions. Projects range from baskets, picture frames, wreaths, necklaces, and gift wrap to body paint, amulet bags, and painted stones; from a chess set to shell buttons to an okra pod canoe and people. The projects display a respect for nature and art, and a simple, subtle beauty; they are not the cutesy, stylized projects described in so many contemporary books. Line drawings accompany the numbered steps and charming ink-and-watercolor pictures illustrate the completed projects. Some general crafting techniques are explained. The helpful appendix offers charts on the availability of various materials and their uses and gift suggestions. Bobbe Needham's *Ecology Crafts for Kids* (Sterling, 1998), which encourages the use of natural craft materials as well as recycled man-made materials, complements this title. Martin's unusual volume will be a great resource for crafters of all ages and abilities. Lynda Ritterman, Atco Elementary School, Waterford, NJ Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc. if you want to use nature to nurture your child's creativity, then *Art Box* provides hours of activities. New York Daily News "...you'll learn a little about conservation and a lot about art basics..." Dallas Morning News Run right out and get *Nature's Art Box* this is a fun book that will get kids outdoors San Diego Union Tribune "Nature's Art Box takes nature crafts to a more creative level." Knight Ridder The beauty of *Nature's Art Box* is that it entertains as well as educates. Ft. Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel Youngsters will see nature through the eyes of an artist and learn how to be stewards of the Earth. Indianapolis Star the author encourages kids to see artistic potential in a handful of twigs, pinecones and more. Publishers Weekly "The projects display a respect for nature and art, and a simple, subtle beauty...Martin's unusual volume will be a great resource for crafters of all ages and abilities." School Library Journal the book emphasizes seeing the world as an artist's palate, there are also lessons on being kind to nature and how to collect items. St. Paul Pioneer Press