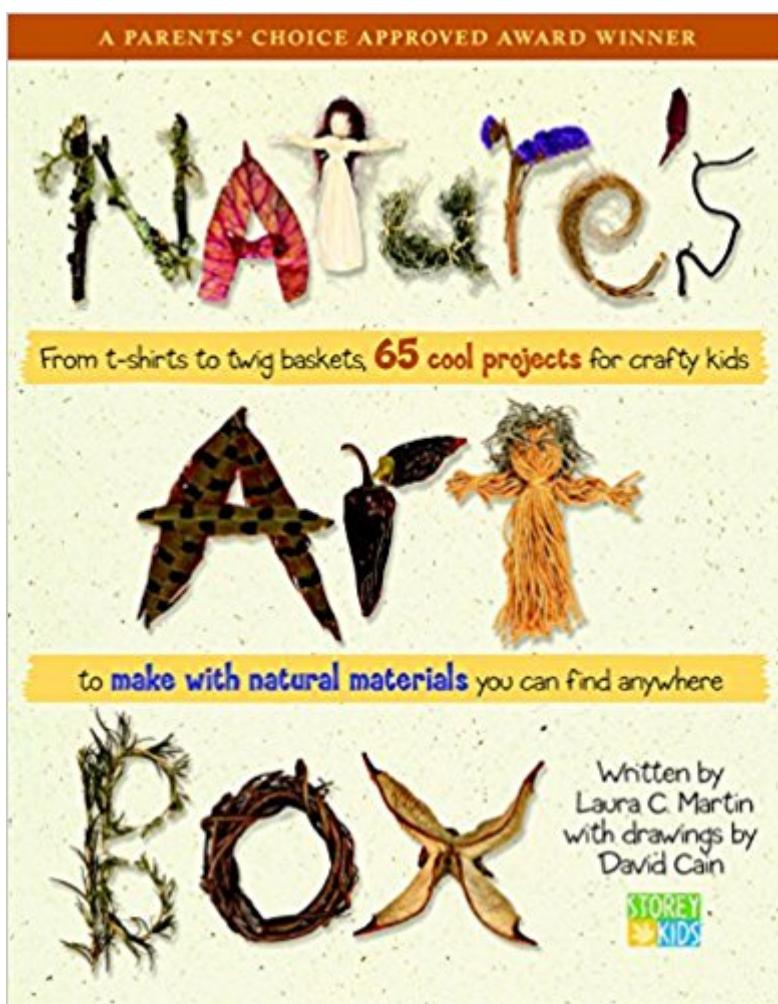


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# Nature's Art Box: From T-shirts To Twig Baskets, 65 Cool Projects For Crafty Kids To Make With Natural Materials You Can Find Anywhere



## **Synopsis**

Take your childâ™s creativity outside! Laura C. Martin offers 65 art projects that kids can make with materials found right in their backyard. Thereâ™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, Natureâ™s Art Box is an inspiring handbook for the next generation of expressive and conscientious stewards of the earthâ™s resources.

## **Book Information**

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Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 4 - 8

## **Customer Reviews**

Grade 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. --This text refers to the School & Library Binding edition.

âœâœif you want to use nature to nurture your childâ™s creativity, then âœArt Boxâ• provides hours of activities.â•â "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 Natureâ™s Art Boxâœ|this is a fun book that will get kids outdoorsâœâ "San Diego Union Tribune" "Nature's Art Box takes nature crafts to a more creative level." "Knight Ridder" "The beauty of Natureâ™s Art Box is that it entertains as well as educates.âœâ "Ft. Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel" "Youngsters will see nature through the eyes of an artist and learn how to be stewards of the Earth.â•â "Indianapolis Star" "âœâœ|the author encourages kids to see artistic potential in a handful of twigs, pinecones and more.â•â "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" "âœâœ|the book emphasizes seeing the world as an artistâ™s palate, there are also lessons on being kind to nature and how to collect items.â•â "St. Paul Pioneer Press"â

I thought this book was perfect for a young granddaughter who loves to look at my books about what to use and processes for making wreaths from natural items. She loves to spend time outside collecting items, making things and drawing. This book is full of useful information, and I enjoyed it also! I would recommend this book for anyone who is looking for a gift for a young explorer who is craft oriented.

I 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.

great projects to do in here. i bought the book because i had seen it before, so it wasn't bought sight

unseen.

So many craft that are easy to assemble. Buy yourself a glue gun if you don't have one.

This was a Christmas present for my 10 year old niece. I can't wait to use it with her. (Her Mom and Grandmother also love it.)

This book explains some great crafts. I was expecting more crafts that could easily be completed with things like twigs and leaves. The listed projects are very involved and generally need fairly hard to find it expensive items.

Going to use this for Vacation Bible School Crafts. Everyone had things on their yard so why not make a craft out of them.

interesting projects

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