



OGDEN MUSEUM
OF SOUTHERN ART

Movement Mondays: **Nature Assemblage** **Inspired by Sherry Owens**



Sherry Owens, *Mother Nature Throwing Up Her Hands*, 2017, crepe myrtle, baling wire, paint, dye, wax

Sherry Owens reassembles twigs and branches from the crepe myrtle tree. Inspired by observations in nature, she constructs nest-like objects. Owens develops a language with nature in her work that comments on man's effect on the changing environment.

Explore nature and create an assemblage from natural found objects.

Instructions

Step 1: With the help of a parent or guardian, take a walk around your neighborhood. What trees or plants do you notice?

Step 2: Collect natural **found objects** from your nature walk. Collect rocks, flowers, sticks, leaves and other things found in nature. Be mindful of cutting or taking plants from your neighbors' yard. Be sure to ask a parent/guardian before collecting the objects.

Step 3: Once you are back at your house, find a place to create your artwork, maybe on a table or on the floor.

Step 4: Think about the **composition** of your **assemblage**. Take a moment to arrange the objects in different compositions. Will you group like objects together? Will you create a pattern by alternating objects? How does layering the objects change the composition?

Step 5: Once you have decided on a composition ask a parent or guardian with help photographing your artwork.

Step 6 (Optional): Try creating different assemblages with the natural found objects.

Vocabulary

Composition - is the arrangement or placement of visual elements in a piece of artwork

Found Object - a thing that someone else has given or thrown away that is often repurposed by artists

Assemblage – a work of art made by grouping found or unrelated objects together

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