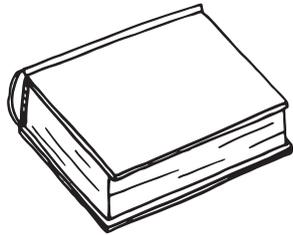
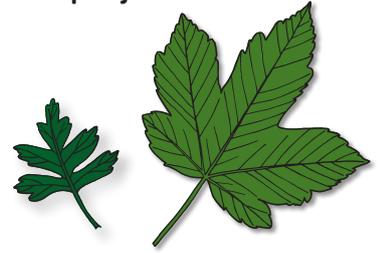


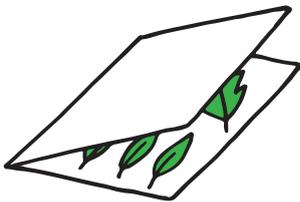


Learn how to press leaves you've collected so you can use them in craft projects or keep in your Leaf Log.*

A PRESSING MATTER

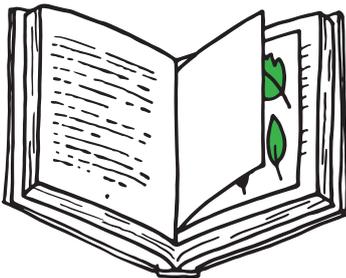


1: Find a heavy book that you can use as a press. **Make sure you get permission from the book's owner before using it** as some of the pages might get a bit stained or wrinkled from the leaves as they dry out. Use a book that's the same size or bigger than your leaves.



2: Fold some clean pieces of paper in half – they should be of a size that will fit inside your chosen book whilst accommodating your leaves. These are your pressing papers and need to be fairly absorbent (so they soak in the moisture from the leaves) and smooth (so they don't imprint any extra texture on to the leaves).

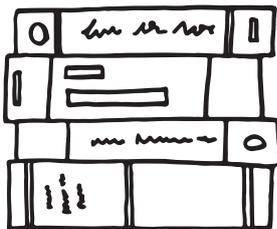
TOP TIP: Printer paper, thin, smooth cardboard or white facial tissues are good options for this.



3: Open up a piece of your pressing paper and lay in some of your leaves.

TOP TIP: Make sure the leaves are lying as flat as possible and aren't overlapping each other

4: Fold the paper back over the leaves and put it in between the pages of your heavy book.

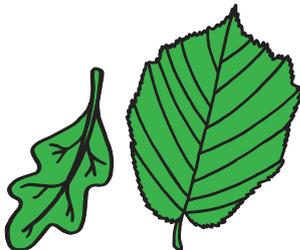


5: Repeat as required but leave about 0.5 cm of pages between each layer

TOP TIP: Don't put too many layers in your book, otherwise the spine may get damaged.

6: Close the book, place it in a dry place with some more heavy books stacked on top and then wait...

7: ... after 4-6 weeks your leaves should be dried out and ready to use!



! Please try to find the tree leaf on the ground, rather than taking a leaf from a branch as the tree needs that leaf to make its food.