



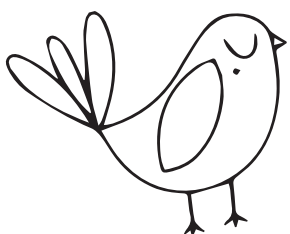
## SUMMER ~~AT~~ <sup>with</sup> THE MUSEUMS

The Botanic Garden is home to more than 8000 different species of plants from all over the world. You'll find everything from desert cacti and tropical banana plants, to enormous oak trees and wild flowers.

Plants aren't just nice to look at – they are used in everything from medicines to clothes. For instance, many of the plants in your kitchen contain colourful chemicals called pigments that you can use to make paint.



Most pigments do important jobs for plants. For example, chlorophyll, the pigment that gives leaves their green colour, captures energy from the sun and uses it to make food. Another pigment, anthocyanin, makes some fruit and flowers colourful so they can attract animals.



Warning! May get messy!  
Protect your clothes and  
surfaces when painting  
with plants.



# PLANT PIGMENT RECIPES

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Follow these easy recipes to make your own plant paints. You can mash up these ingredients in a bowl by hand or use a blender. Make sure a grown-up in your home is happy with you using these ingredients and helps with using the blender.

## Green paint

Pigment: Chlorophyll

You will need: Spinach or kale

Method: Add  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup of water to  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of spinach. Blend or mash up to make green paint.

## Red paint

Pigment: Betalain

You will need: Cooked beetroot

Method: Add  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup of water to  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of cooked beetroot. Blend or mash up to make red paint.

## Yellow paint

Pigment: Curcumin

You will need: Turmeric spice

Method: Mix 2 tablespoons of turmeric spice powder with 4 tablespoons of water to make a yellow paint.

## Blue paint

Pigment: Anthocyanin

You will need: Blueberries

Method: Add  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup of water to  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of blueberries. Blend or mash up to make a paint that turns blue on paper. Save half of your mixture to make grey paint.

## Blue/Grey paint

Pigment: Anthocyanin

You will need: Blueberries + Bicarbonate of Soda

Method: Take mixture you have saved from making the blue paint and add 2 teaspoons of bicarbonate of soda to this to make a blue/grey paint.

Try experimenting with other ingredients or even plants from your garden.

