



## An Art Experiment: Andy Goldsworthy and Biology.

This short art experiment aims to encourage students to understand the basics of biology, whilst being introduced to key artists and concepts from art history. Feel free to send the student's final product to [ppe@casulapowerhouse.com](mailto:ppe@casulapowerhouse.com)



Image by Cayn Rosmarin, *Art for Candy*, 2016

**Andy Goldsworthy** is a British artist known for his site-specific installations. These site-specific installations involve natural materials, such as leaves, ice and rocks. His work shows the passage of time, and he documents using photography and video the “ephemeral collaboration with nature”. To him art is more about life and the need to understand that a lot of things do not last. He was born on July 29, 1956 in Cheshire, United Kingdom. Andy Goldsworthy has been associated with Environmental Art movement. Some images of his work are below.

## Questions and Activities:

- What are his artworks made from?
  - What does the word ephemeral mean? Write your own definition.
  - Start collecting some leaves, sticks rocks and arranging them from largest to smallest in your own house?
  - Create your own natural sculpture.
- 



Andy Goldsworthy,  
*Carefully Broken Pebbles*  
Scratched White, Scotland 1985



Andy Goldsworthy,  
*Red Cherry Leaf Patch*,  
Cumbria, 1984



Andy Goldsworthy,  
*Dandelion Flowers Pinned with*  
*Thorns*, Cumbria 1985

**Biology:** Plants have parts that are perfect for the different things they need. Roots can be different sizes to help gather water and vitamins from the soil. Flowers can be bright, colourful to attract insects such as bees. Leaves can be large and green to gather sunlight for the plants to make their own food.

---

## Questions and Activities:

- Gather a few different plants (every type of plant is different) and take them apart to get a better look at what goes on inside the plants. Tape the different plants to a journal and write what each part of the plant is.
- If you can collect a few plants of a similar structure, write down their similarities and differences.
- Draw a biological drawing of the plant like other Biologists have done in the past. See below for examples.

