

HOW TO DISPLAY A LEAF COLLECTION

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Materials

Before you start the project, make sure you have the following materials ready:

- 2 pieces of construction paper for the front and back covers
- Leaves (fresh leaves work better than dry ones)
- Contact paper
- Scissors
- Stapler

Step-by-Step Instructions

1. **Cut the Construction Paper:** Begin by cutting the construction paper into a size suitable for the front and back covers. An 8-inch by 8-inch size generally works well for this project.
2. **Decorate the Cover:** Let your creativity shine! Encourage the Cub Scouts to decorate the cover with their names or drawings. This personal touch will make the collection book even more special.
3. **Prepare the Contact Paper:** Cut two pieces of contact paper, roughly the same size as the cover. Contact paper will protect the leaves and keep them in place.
4. **Arrange the Leaves:** Carefully peel the backing off one of the pieces of contact paper and lay it flat on a table, sticky side up. Arrange one or more leaves on the sticky side, leaving at least an inch of space between the leaves and the edges of the contact paper. Avoid placing the leaves too close to the edges.
5. **Seal the Leaves:** Peel the backing off the second piece of contact paper. Now, carefully place the sticky side of this second piece over the first, sandwiching the leaves in between. This step might require an extra pair of hands to ensure a smooth and neat sealing process.
6. **Trim the Edges:** Once the leaves are neatly sandwiched between the contact paper, trim the edges to make them neat and uniform.
7. **Assemble the Book:** With all the “pages” ready, stack them between the front and back covers. Staple them together along one edge, securing the pages in place.

Helpful Tips:

- The trickiest part of this project is putting the sticky sides of the contact paper together. If you find it challenging, you can use construction paper instead for the second piece, though this means you'll only be able to see one side of the leaves.