



## SUMMER PROJECT: THE BOTANIST

Your challenge is to become an explorer, an observer and a researcher. You will immerse yourself in the natural environment studying flora that you can access around where you live: your garden, houseplants, garden centres, your fruit bowl, forests, woods, grass verges, fields....Through drawing, photography and collecting specimens, you will build up a body of visual research that will be developed further in September.

The work you complete will form part of your first project and will be developed further in school using course specific techniques. Therefore, it is vital that you collect and record as much visual material as possible.

The summer project is broken down into series of activities that must be documented in a sketchbook. This is your opportunity to show us what you can do and allow us to see your commitment to the subject.

Materials that will help you with this project:

A Camera (this can be your phone)

Drawing / painting materials

A sketchbook (thick pages)

Access to a computer / internet

## ACTIVITY 1: MIND MAP

1. Find definitions for the following key words: botanist, botany, and specimen.
2. In your own words, write a definition for each word in your sketchbook.
3. Create 1 mind map exploring the 3 key words (at least 30 words). Remember that branches should come off of branches).



## ACTIVITY 2: OBSERVING, COLLECTING AND PHOTOGRAPHING

Now its time to undertake your visual research: observing, notetaking, photographing, painting, drawing and specimen collecting. All of the research that you undertake must be documented in your sketchbook. Think of your sketchbook as a space to document what you are seeing as you come accross it, don't agonise over layouts.

Think about photographing from different angles and viewpoints, for examples, could you dissect parts to draw / photograph?

As a guide we are looking for at least 4 pages full of photographs / painting/ drawing or mixed media (you can draw /paint /sew over your intial imagery) or create a collage. (Examples included on the next page).

### **Examples of specimens to photograph:**

Fruits, Vegetables, Seeds, Moss, Fungi, Roots, Petals, Leaves, Bulbs, Flowers, Grass, Branches, Succulents, Buds, Lichen, Trees, Plants.





## MIXED MEDIA EXAMPLES:

