

LESSON: Collaboration with Nature and Math**Grade Level: K****OBJECTIVES:**

Students will:

- Learn about contemporary artist, Andy Goldsworthy
- Discover how Goldsworthy and other artists collaborate with nature
- Collect their own materials from the playground, or bring from home
- Use their collected materials to create a small group sculpture
- Use math skills such as sorting, grouping, counting, and adding

MATERIALS:

Photos of Goldsworthy's work and or his book, *Andy Goldsworthy: A Collaboration with Nature*, objects from nature, such as leaves, stones, twigs, bark, feathers, etc., digital camera * (teacher should bring a few nature items from home or ask students ahead of time to bring them for "practice") links for Goldsworthy :

http://www.morning-earth.org/ARTISTNATURALISTS/AN_Goldsworthy.html; or go to YouTube.com and (under Andy Goldsworthy leaves), access *Time Lapse Leaves* and *Andy Goldsworthy "Rivers & Tides"* (under Andy Goldsworthy rocks), access *Andy Goldsworthy and #5*

PRESENTATION:

Show students the art book, *Andy Goldsworthy: A Collaboration with Nature*. As students view the work, explain that this artist wanted to work with nature, so that viewers would better understand the land. Discuss with students ways in which the artist uses sorting, grouping, counting, and adding.

DIRECTIONS:

1. Introduce students to the art of Goldsworthy through your *Presentation*.
2. Divide students into small groups and have them practice by grouping, sorting, counting and adding objects that have been brought in.
3. Next time you meet, spend first half of allotted time collecting materials for their sculptures. This could be done on the playground, a field trip to a park, or a neighborhood walk.
4. During second half of their time, students will assemble their nature sculptures, using grouping, sorting, counting and adding. Remind them to arrange their leaves, rocks, etc. by sorting small to large, grouping by color or shape, and using a shape, such as spiral, circle, triangle, etc. to organize their creations.
5. Teachers or accompanying parents will photograph the sculptures, using a digital camera.
6. Sculptures can be available for viewing on the computer.

PROCESSING THROUGH THE SIX PILLARS:

Lesson: Collaboration with Nature and Math (Goldsworthy)

WHAT:

- Were you able to collect items from nature without digging or taking pieces of live plants or harming the space the item came from?

SO WHAT:

- What would happen if everyone took leaves off live plants instead of picking up fallen leaves from the ground?
- Why is it important to collect only items from nature that has fallen?

NOW WHAT:

- A good citizen of the outdoors leaves only footprints in the out-of-doors. What does this mean?