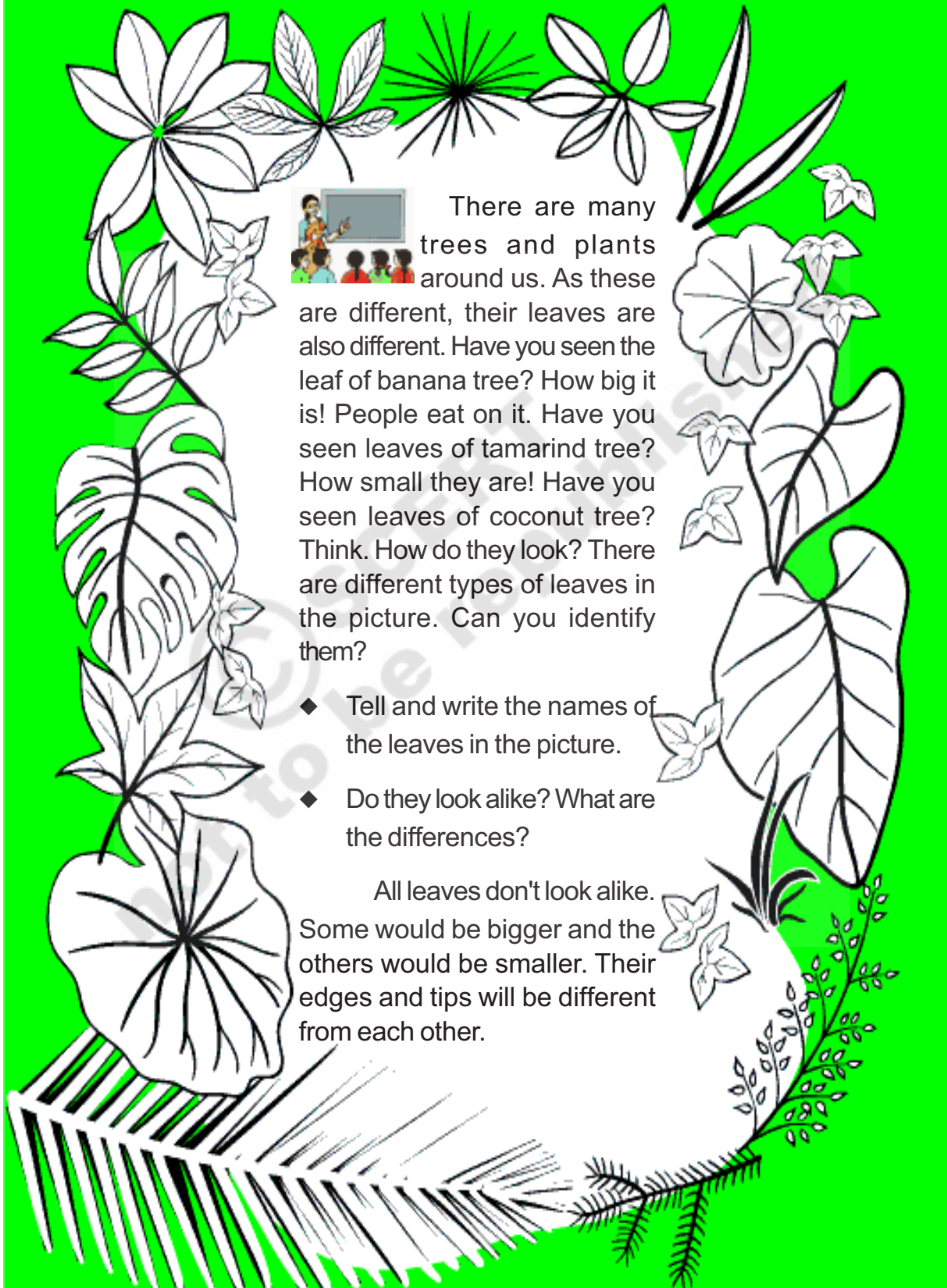


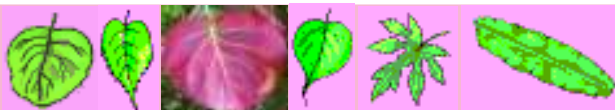
6. FRIENDLY LEAVES



There are many trees and plants around us. As these are different, their leaves are also different. Have you seen the leaf of banana tree? How big it is! People eat on it. Have you seen leaves of tamarind tree? How small they are! Have you seen leaves of coconut tree? Think. How do they look? There are different types of leaves in the picture. Can you identify them?

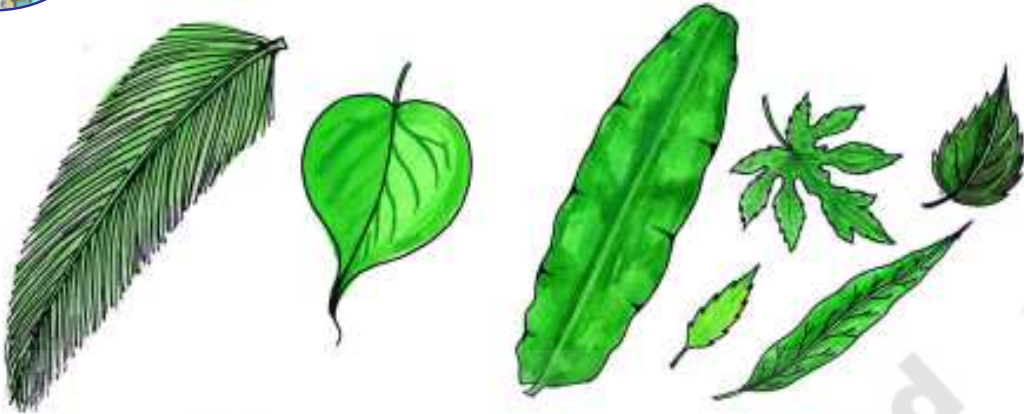
- ◆ Tell and write the names of the leaves in the picture.
- ◆ Do they look alike? What are the differences?

All leaves don't look alike. Some would be bigger and the others would be smaller. Their edges and tips will be different from each other.





Look at the leaves given below. Observe the edges and tips of the leaves.



Generally, some leaves have smooth edges and others have saw (rough) edges. Some leaves have sharp tips and others have rounded tip. Name some leaves which are similar.



Collect some leaves. Touch their surface. How did you feel? Are they soft or rough? Observe and write in the table.

Names of soft leaves	Names of rough leaves



Colourful Leaves

There are different croton plants in Yousuf's house. They are in different colours. Ramu who came to Yousuf's house saw the different coloured leaves and was surprised. Ramu observed the leaves of mango tree. He found that the new leaves were light red in colour, old leaves were dark green in colour and the leaves about to fall were yellow in colour. Have you ever seen different coloured leaves? Name them.





Take any leaf and observe its colour, shape, tip, top and bottom. How do you feel when you touch it? Is it rough or smooth? Smell it. How was it. Did you get the smell? Observe the tip? How are they?

Do you know?
The leaves of Almond tree would be in different colours.



Likewise collect some other leaves. Fill in the table on following items.

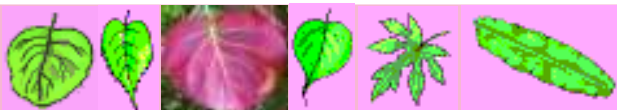
Leaf	Colour of new leaves	Colour of old leaves	Colour of fallen leaves	Shape of tip	Top surface	Bottom surface	smell



Shedding of leaves

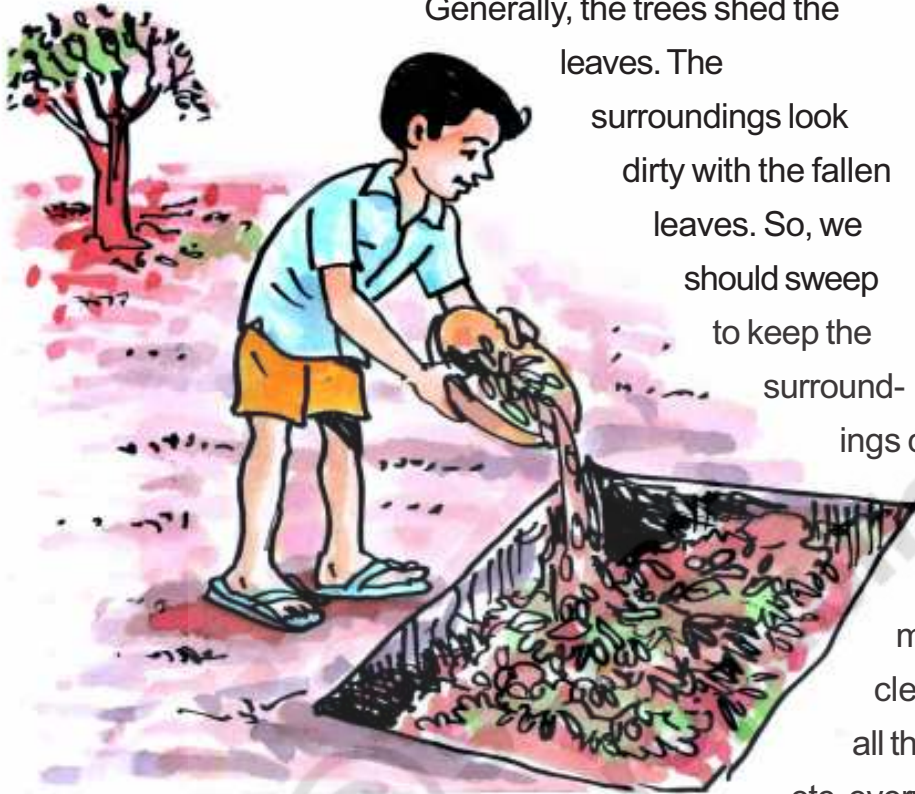
There is a big tree in Robert's school. All children play under the shade of the tree during holidays. Robert observed that the tree was losing its leaves one by one. Robert was worried on seeing the tree without leaves one day. He began to think, "when will the leaves grow back again."

When do the trees start shedding leaves?
What would happen to the fallen leaves?
When do the trees get new leaves?
Observe and tell which trees shed their leaves.





What should be done with the fallen leaves?



Generally, the trees shed the leaves. The surroundings look dirty with the fallen leaves. So, we should sweep to keep the surroundings clean.

Do you know?

Usually we burn the leaves, garbage, papers whenever we clean. The smoke that comes out due to burning of the leaves and garbage is injurious to health. Instead of burning, the garbage should be dumped into a Compost pit.

Compost pit :

In Robert's school the members of the school cleaning committee sweep all the fallen leaves and paper etc. every day and throw them into

the pit. In the same way the left over food collected after the mid day meals is also thrown into the pit. Do you know, why they do this? After a few days it decays and becomes a good fertilizer. This is used for the plants of the school garden. This is called composting.

What is done to the garbage of your school?



Leaves as Food:

When Robert returned home after school, he smelt curry cooking in the kitchen. When curry leaves and coriander leaves are added to food, it gives good taste and smell.

Tell and write the names of the leaves that have good smell.

When we use different leaves it gives the food good smell and taste. Leafy vegetables are good for health. That is why different leaves are used in cooking. Leafy vegetables should be washed thoroughly before cooking.





Observe the pictures given below. Name the leaves. How do we use them? Name the dishes in which you can use them.



Tell and write the names of some other leafy vegetables you know.

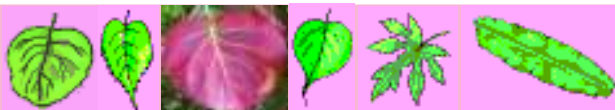
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Let's play and identify the leaves

Collect the leaves of Coriander(dhania), Mint (pudina), eucalyptus (neelagiri), tamarind (chintha), amla (vusiri), neem (vepa) and tulasi.

Cover the eyes of one student with hand kerchief.

Give any leaf to him. Ask him to identify the leaf by either smelling or tasting it. Find out, who identifies more leaves.





Decorating with leaves

You have learnt about the different shapes, colours, tastes and smells of the leaves.

Do you know on what occasions the houses are decorated with leaves? Have you ever decorated your house with leaves?

The picture given below shows how Kamala's house was decorated for the festival of Sankranti.



Which leaves are used to decorate the house in the above picture?

Which leaves do you use to decorate your house on festivals?

When do you decorate your school with leaves? Which leaves do you use?

Generally, the houses will be decorated with the leaves of mango, coconut and banana during festivals, marriages and fairs(jathara). Such decoration with leaves makes the house look beautiful.



Colours with leaves:

It was Harika's birth day. She wore a new dress. She applied henna (gorintaku) on her hands and fingers. She showed the beautiful designs of henna on her hands to all the children in the school. Everyone appreciated it and said it was very beautiful.

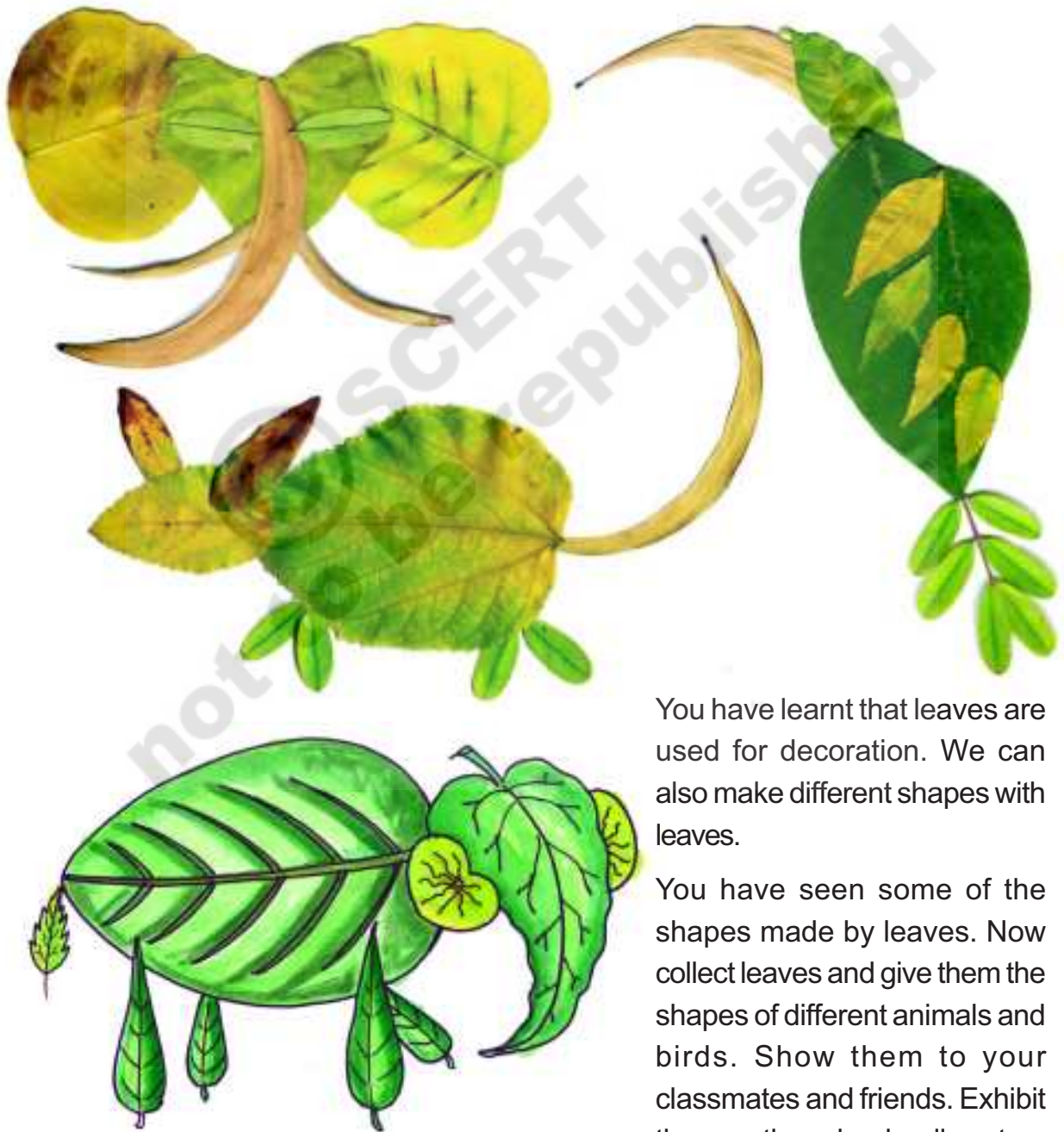


Do you want to apply henna (mehandi) like Harika? Ask your mother and get your hands designed with henna (mehandi) beautifully. Show it to your friends.



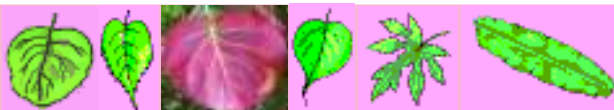
Shapes with leaves

You have known that the leaves are used for decoration. We can also make different shapes with leaves. Robert collected all the fallen leaves from the school ground. He pasted them on a white paper and made a picture. All children saw the shape made by Robert and appreciated him. Shall we see the shapes made by Robert?



You have learnt that leaves are used for decoration. We can also make different shapes with leaves.

You have seen some of the shapes made by leaves. Now collect leaves and give them the shapes of different animals and birds. Show them to your classmates and friends. Exhibit them on the school wall poster.





Playing with leaves:

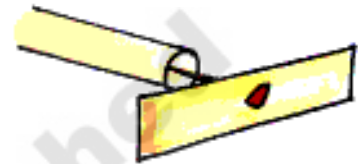
Harika saw Robert playing with wind flower. "Where did you buy it"? She asked. "No, I made it myself" replied Robert. "Teach me too" requested Harika. How did Robert make the wind flower? Let's see.

- 1) Take a dried palm leaf and cut into a piece the length of which should be equal to a finger.



- 2) Pierce a thorn or a nail to the piece of palm leaf.

- 3) Pierce the leaf to a soft twig or straw of millet.



(choppa bendu)

- 4) When we run holding this wind flower made of palm leaf it swirls like a fan.

Discuss with your friends and make different toys with leaves.



Key words

- | | | |
|-------------------|---------------|------------------|
| 1. Tips | 2. Edges | 3. Rough surface |
| 4. Smooth surface | 5. New leaves | 6. Compost |
| 7. Fertilizer | 9. Dry leaves | 10. decoration |

What have we learnt?

- ★ Leaves are of different shapes and sizes. Some are soft and some are rough. Some have saw (rough) edge and some have smooth edge. Some have sharp tips and some have round tips. Some are big and some are small.
- ★ Generally, young leaves are light red, old leaves dark green and dried leaves are yellow in colour.
- ★ The leafy vegetables like curry leaf, coriander, spinach and others are good for health. Leafy vegetables should be washed thoroughly before they are cooked.
- ★ The leaves of banana and mango are used for decoration. Henna (mehandi) is used to decorate the hands.
- ★ We should not burn the fallen leaves. They should be thrown into the compost pit and covered with mud for making a good fertilizer.



DO THIS



Conceptual Understanding

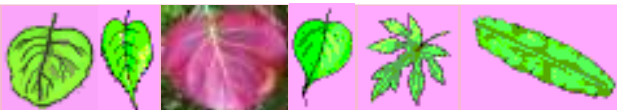
1. Name some saw (rough) edged leaves.
2. Write down the similarities and differences between the leaves of hibiscus and lotus.



3. Give four examples of leaves which are used as food.
4. Find out the names of leaves hidden in the table below.

C	U	R	R	Y	L	E	A	F
O	T	A	M	A	R	I	N	D
R	R	R	A	C	T	D	D	M
I	B	A	N	O	U	X	O	E
A	A	R	G	C	L	X	O	N
N	N	A	O	O	A	X	O	T
D	A	R	X	N	S	E	M	H
E	N	A	X	U	I	X	H	O
R	A	X	X	T	X	X	J	L

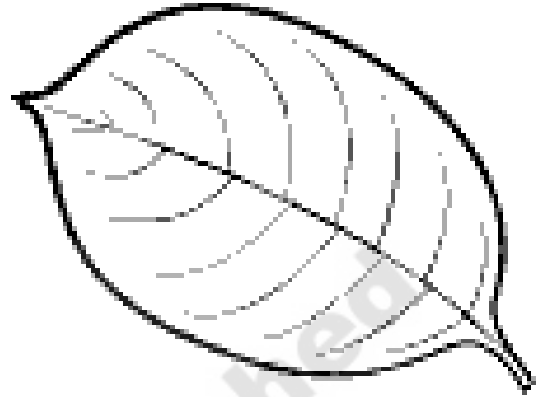
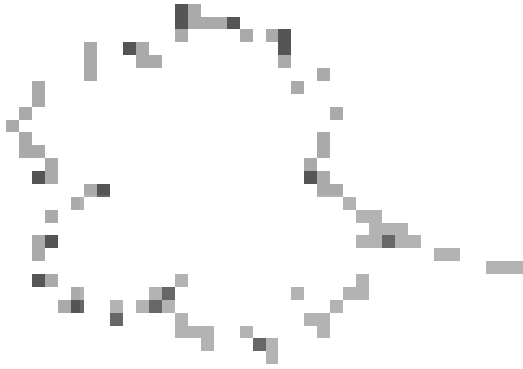
- ◆ Which leaves in the above table can be identified by smell?
 - ◆ Which leaves in the above table are used for decoration?
5. Write the names of some leaves you have known and write their uses.
 6. What should be done with the fallen leaves?





Draw and Colour the pictures.

1. Draw the pictures of any two leaves you like. Write their names.
2. Draw and colour the pictures given below.



Information Skills - Project work.

1. Collect the information of leafy vegetables that were cooked in your friends' houses for the last two days. Fill the table with the particulars.

Sl.No.	Name of the friend	Name of the leafy vegetable cooked

- ◆ In how many houses did they cook leafy vegetables?
 - ◆ Which vegetables are cooked in more number of houses?
2. Make different shapes with leaves. Paste them on a chart. Exhibit it in the class.
 3. Collect some leaves and keep them in your note book. Remove them after a week. Paste them on a chart. Exhibit it in the class.





Do it and discuss what happened.

1. Grind hibiscuss (mandara) leaves and apply to the left hand. Grind henna (mehandi) and apply to the right hand. Observe after two hours and say what happened.
2. Keep any leaf in an old note book for fifteen days. Write down the changes you observed.
3. Put different leaves in hot water. Take out and observe after some time. What changes did you observe?



Appreciation.

1. Who made good shapes with leaves in your class? What pictures did they make? Why did you feel that they are nice to look at?
2. What do you do with fallen leaves at your home/school?



Ask a Question.

1. Harini came to Neeraja's residence. She saw leaves of different plants. She was surprised to see some leaves. She enquired Neeraja about them. What questions Harini might have asked Neeraja? Write down those questions. What answers Neeraja might have given her?



Can I do this?



- | | |
|--|--------|
| 1. I can classify the leaves on the basis of edge and tip. | Yes/No |
| 2. I can explain the uses of leaves. | Yes/No |
| 3. I can draw leaves of different shapes. | Yes/No |
| 4. I can ask questions about leaves. | Yes/No |
| 5. I can collect and tabulate the information on leaves. | Yes/No |
| 6. Eating leafy vegetables is good for health. | |
| I eat leafy vegetables regularly. | Yes/No |

