



## Pine Bough Print and Snowflakes For grades K-12

### Description/Objective

It's cold outside, but you can still bring the outside in with this art project while teaching your child about evergreens, printing techniques, snowflakes and symmetry.

### Materials

8"X 11" light blue construction paper  
10"X 12" black construction paper

Brown, white and green tempera paint  
Q-tips  
Paper plate  
Scrap mat board pieces or thin cardboard  
White colored pencil, crayon, or oil pastel  
Gluestick

### Procedure:

Discuss how pine boughs are structured and that evergreen trees have leaves or needles that remain green all year. Use one as a model if possible. Take a Q-tip and paint a brown branch across your blue paper. Begin at what will be the thick part of the branch and paint out from there, tapering off into the thin ends of branches.

Print needles in groups along the branch by dipping the thin edge of a piece of mat board into the green paint and printing them onto the paper.

Examine a pine cone. Notice how the patterns of the cone look like little smiles, from larger at the bottom receding into smaller smiles at the end. Paint the pine cones with a Q-tip from larger "smiles" to smaller "smiles".

Let the paint dry. Discuss with your child the concept of snow falling on the tops of the branches, needles and snowflakes. Using a Q-tip, paint in some snow.



Discuss snowflake design by introducing the word symmetry. Tell your child that by making an exact matching arrangement of parts on opposite sides they are creating a symmetrical pattern. Using a white pencil, crayon or oil pastel draw snowflakes around your branch. There are several interesting internet sites just on snowflakes!

Use the black paper as a mat.