

Write Out 2021

4 Leaf Palette Poem Inspiration

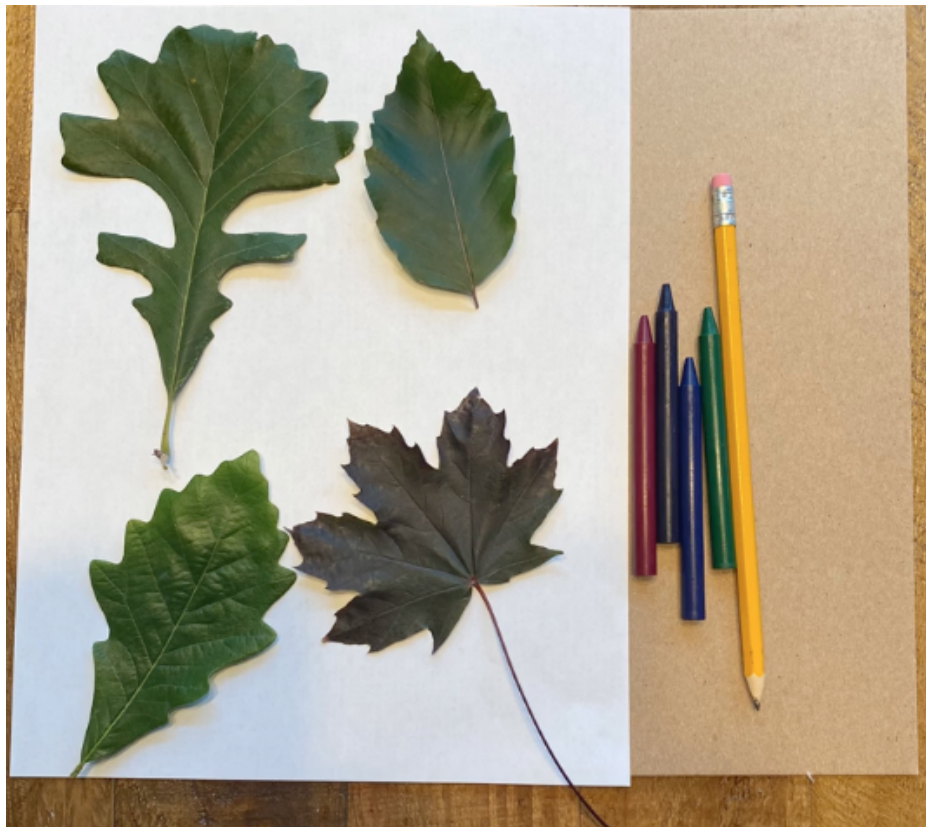
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Inspired by my visit to the [George Washington Carver National Monument](#) in Missouri, here is an activity that can inspire your writing beginning with an exploration of nature, much like Dr. Carver himself used to do.

First start by creating a palette:

You will need:

- 4 leaves (gathered responsibly; I recommend fresh leaves, dry leaves will break)
- 4 crayons without labels (I invite you to pick fall colors that reflect the colors around you during Write Out)
- A blank sheet of paper (printer paper works well)
- A scrap piece of paper on which you can apply pressure/protect the surface you are working on
- A standard #2 graphite pencil



Start by creating rubbing of your leaves; I recommend you do one leaf at a time. On many leaves, the ridges are more prominent on the underside. If you want to capture that, turn the leaf upside down before you place it under the paper.



Start to rub over the leaf but on top of the paper. Do this for each leaf. Now you have a palette for your poem!

Make your palette poem complete by writing your poem on your page wherever you like. I like to use a graphic pencil for this purpose. You can choose what you want to use. You can also choose the form of the poem and where it goes on the page.

Here is mine:



Share your 4-Leaf Palette Poem using the hashtag #writeout!