Ephemeral Nature Art

Materials: found natural materials (leaves, rocks, flowers, petals, sticks, etc.)

Background Information: Ephemeral means lasting a very short time. Ephemeral art refers to art that is created from materials that will only exist or be seen for a short period of time. For example, building a sand castle on the shore during low tide will only stay standing until high-tide when it will get washed away. Many beautiful things are found in nature and are the inspiration for artwork.

STEM Career Connection: Florists, or floral designers, sell flowers and floral arrangements to customers. They cut and arrange flowers and greenery to make decorative displays.

Literature Connections: Camille and the Sunflowers by Laurence Anholt, Land Art for Kids by Richard Shilling and Julia Brooklyn, Natural: Simple Land Art Through the Seasons by Marc Pouyet

Challenge:
1. Go for a walk around your yard or neighborhood. Collect natural material specimens.
2. Use collected natural materials to create a piece of nature art on the sidewalk, driveway, patio, or table.
3. Notice how your artwork changes from one day to the next. How long did it stay? What or how changed the artwork or caused it to go away?
4. NOTE: If you’d like to create a piece of nature art that is not ephemeral, simply glue your artwork to a piece of paper, cardboard, or paper plate.