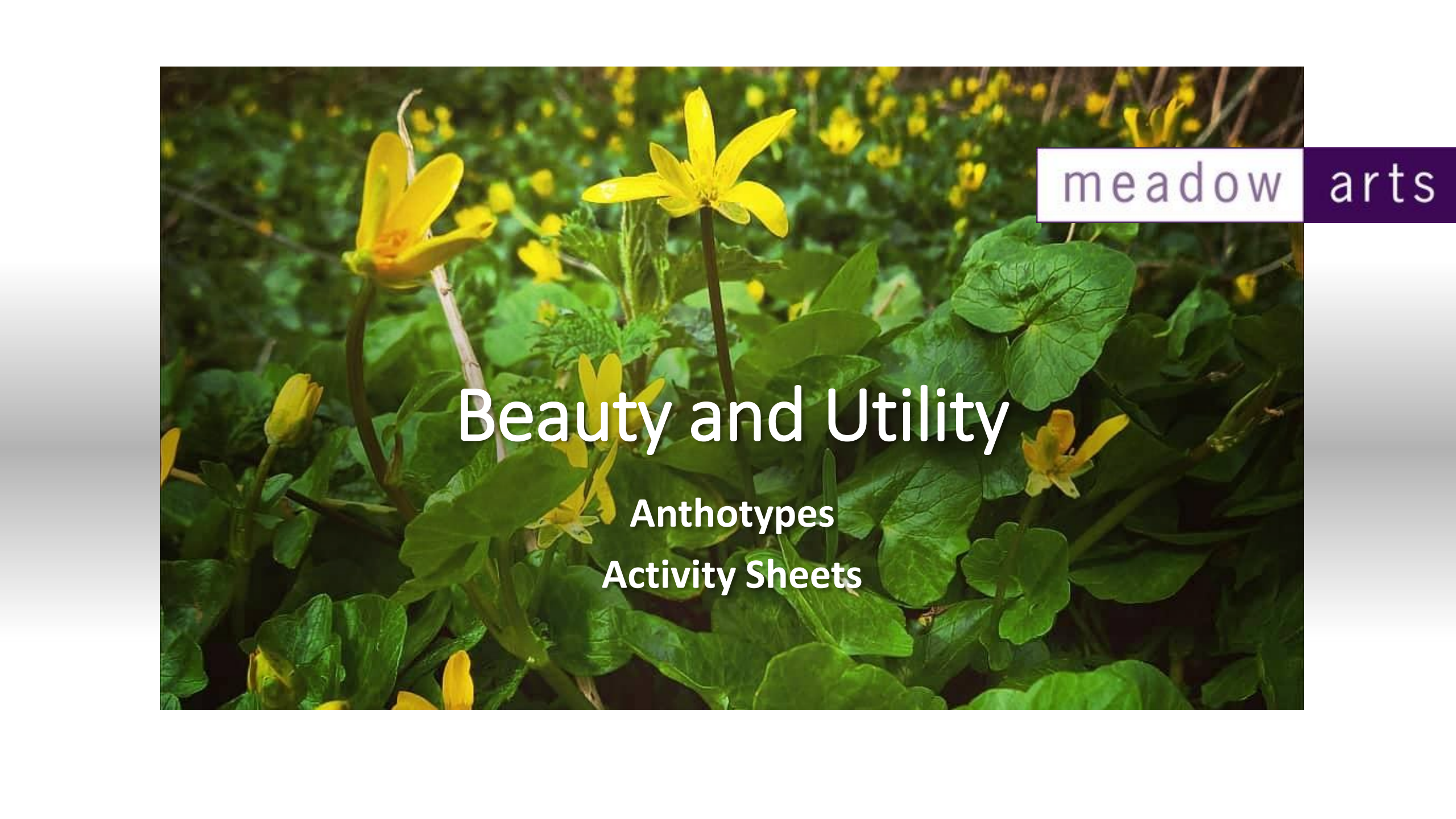




meadow arts

Beauty and Utility

Anthotypes
Activity Sheets

Anthotypes

An anthotype is an environmentally friendly process using the naturally photosensitive properties of petals, leaves, and fruits.

It is a contact printing technique in three steps:

1. making the emulsion
2. coating the paper
3. exposure to sunlight

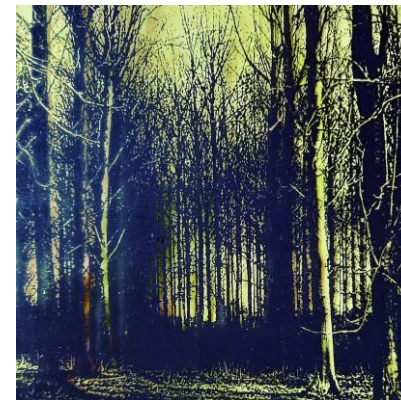
Exposure times will vary from a few hours to several weeks depending on the material used and the light conditions. Images will fade in the light so store in a dark place.

Explore:

Anthotypes Archives - AlternativePhotography.com

Safety!

- Some plants, even common household ones are poisonous so always do your research on their toxicity and never pick what you are unsure of.
- Children should be supervised.
- Always wear gloves to protect skin from irritation or staining.
- When collecting wild plants, follow the 1 in 20 rule and only pick what you need.
- Guidance can be found at:
[Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland \(bsbi.org\)](http://Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland (bsbi.org))



Make: Spinach Anthotype

Step 1: Make the emulsion

Put a good handful of fresh spinach into a jug with two teaspoons of vodka or water. Blend or crush to make a paste then push through a sieve or muslin cloth to make the emulsion.

Step 2: Coat the paper

Prepare the watercolour paper out of direct sunlight by evenly brushing on the emulsion using vertical strokes and then horizontal strokes. Allow to dry in a dark area then apply another thin coat then leave to completely dry.

Step 3: Exposure

Place the coated paper on the base of the clip frame and overlay with an image on clear acetate then expose in the sun. Exposure times will vary between 2-6 hours depending on the emulsion and sunlight.

You will need:

- ☐ Spinach
- ☐ Vodka or water
- ☐ Pestle and mortar or hand blender
- ☐ Sieve or muslin cloth
- ☐ Jug
- ☐ Acid free watercolour paper
- ☐ Image on acetate
- ☐ Clip frame



Make: Turmeric Anthotype

A simple emulsion with a strong colour and short exposure time. Turmeric stains so protect clothes and surfaces!

You will need:

- ☐ Turmeric powder (1 tsp)
- ☐ Vodka (4tsp)
- ☐ Acid free watercolour paper
- ☐ Leaves, grasses or flowers
- ☐ Clip frame
- ☐ Bowl and brush

- 1 Add one teaspoon of turmeric powder to four teaspoons of vodka and mix well.
- 2 Evenly coat your paper first with vertical brush strokes and then horizontal. Coat again for good coverage and leave to dry in a dark area.
- 3 Place the coated sheet overlaid with material like leaves or grasses in the clip frame. Expose in the sun for a day – this can vary depending on light conditions. Remove from frame when uncovered areas have turned lighter.

