# Autumn Leaf Prints

## Rahr-West Art Museum

### SUPPLIES NEEDED
- Black Construction Paper
- Cotton Balls
- Clothespins (optional)
- Tempera Paint (various colors)
- Fresh Leaves

1. Take a walk around your neighborhood or in a park and gather various fresh (not dry) leaves. You may use leaves from plants and trees! Be sure to choose a variety of shapes and sizes.

2. Attach the cotton balls to clothes pins (if using). Using one of the clothespin tools (or a cotton ball) spread white paint on the back (veiny side) of a leaf.

3. Flip the leaf over and press the white painted side onto the paper. Then carefully peel the leaf off the paper. Repeat until you are happy with the number and variety of leaf prints on the paper.

4. Use the other clothespin tools (or cotton balls) to add colors around the leaf prints. Rather than using a brush stroke, dot the colors by just pressing the cotton ball to the page and lifting it straight up. Add as few or as many colors as you want to fill your paper.

Stand back and admire your beautiful autumn leaf prints!

### DID YOU KNOW...
When leaves turn colors in the fall, they actually are returning to their normal colors. During the summer months, the chlorophyll present in the leaves causes them to turn green, blocking the leaves’ actual colors.

Share your project with us! Send a photo of your finished project or yourself working to: rahrwest@manitowoc.org.

*By sending us your photos, you grant us permission to share them on social media or use them for promotional materials for the Rahr-West.*