Park

Feet Feelings and Tree Branch Chats from your Neighbourhood.

>This resource draws from the themes Jaf Yusuf uses in his work 'Binfinity and Beyond' around memory, travel, childhood and most of all the importance of remaining imaginative and inquisitive about the world around us.

>We will use the 5 prompts below to 'map' out our own environments, visually by taking photographs, as well as through touching, smelling and listening. This will help us see and feel the places we move through everyday in new and creative ways.

>To begin, imagine yourself as a bird, flying high above your neighbourhood. Draw this out as though it were a map using pencil and paper.

>Note down places important to you. Where you have played with friends, had fun and interesting conversations with neighbours, tripped and hurt your chin and found a perfect grass patch for a recent tik tok video. Consider your route to school, the local shops and your friends and families houses.



1. Street Valuables

>Where were some of your earliest memories? Where did you trip, fall or stumble playing as a child or more recently with friends? Make your way to this location, perhaps it's to your local park, green space, cafe or dog walking route. >Photograph your journey there through the 'street valuables' (the objects and items) you find on your way. A battery, a single shoe, a garden glove or perhaps a nerf bullet, what did you find?

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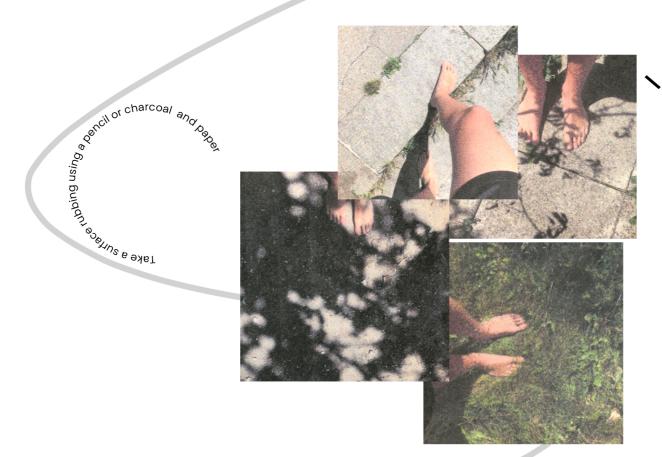
2. Surface Rubbings

>When we've been sat on grass or leant against a brick wall for too long we are often left with an imprint, a cement or grassy relief on our hands and legs. What can these reliefs tell us about a place or space we often visit?

>Let's take a relief of our own! Using charcoal, pencil or crayon and paper take a surface rubbing of your favourite tree, bench, graffiti wall or swing.

> Tape the paper to the surface and shade your pencil or charcoal over the paper, over the bumps and textures until it reveals whats underneath.





3. Feet Feelings

>How do we get a real feeling for a place?
>Usually we take photos, make notes or just return there regularly to play football with friends, picnic or just sit in the sun.

>Where do you find yourself returning to often? Go there but this time lets engage our 'Feet Feelings', take your shoes and socks off, flex your toes, breathe in and out.

>Make a note of what you feel. Is it soft damp grass? Hard round pebbles? Warm sun soaked concrete?

See and feel tips: Try having a chat with a Weeping Willow, they have long light leaves which makes for a great conversation!

4. Tree Branch Chats

>If trees could talk what would they say? Would they chat about the weather and how they are feeling that day?

>By attaching a pen or pencil to a low hung branch with tape in a gentle breeze and then placing a notebook or sheet of paper underneath you can see what the trees or bushes wants to share!

>The squiggles, lines, dots and stars will change from tree to bush to household plant- what does yours look like?





>When spending time in our local parks, shops and beaches we are often unaware of the smaller species that rustle in the grasses, behind the bins and in the hedgerows.

>Lets imagine ourselves as these smaller species and photograph from their perspective.

>Take a photo looking up into a trees, lying face down in the grasses, from the sides of benches and the bottom of slides. How does it feel to see things from a different perspective?

