Introduction
Making cyanotype prints from natural objects. A cyanotype is a photographic printing process that produces a cyan-blue print. Chemicals in the paper react with ultraviolet light (such as from sunlight).

Workshop plan
Cyanotype prints (20 min)
Children gather found objects outside and/or bring in them from home. Objects are left on the paper, exposed to sunlight for a few minutes and then fixed with water.

Drawing from prints (20 min)
Children draw the process, the objects and the resulting prints.

Show and tell (15 min)
Display prints and artworks on a table for children to look at (2 min). Ask a volunteer to talk about another student’s work that they find inspiring. Then ask the student how they made the work. Repeat several times (10 min). Ask the children to write feedback (on post-it notes or forms) about what they have learnt and how they might explore this further (3 min).

Materials:
- cyanotype / nature print paper
- assorted objects (e.g. leaves, buttons, string, feathers)
- tray of water
- space to dry prints / drying racks
- sunshine

Outdoor activity
- This activity only works in direct sunlight. Autumn is a great time of year to collect fallen leaves.

Extension
- Science discussion about sunlight, the spectrum and shadows.

Facts
- The term ‘blueprint’ came from the cyanotype printing process.
Marbling: Step-by-Step

**Step 1**
Place your nature print / Sun sensitive paper, blue side up, on a surface. It is important to ensure that the paper is kept out of sunlight until you are ready to print.

**Step 2**
Place objects on top of the paper. If your objects are particularly lightweight, you can hold them in place with a piece of clear plastic wrap.

**Step 3**
Expose the paper to the Sun for 2-4 minutes, until the paper turns pale blue. Then place in a tray of water.

**Step 4**
Soak the paper in the water for a minute. The colours will begin to invert.

**Step 5**
Remove the paper from the water and let it dry flat. The image will sharpen as it dries.