

# Houston Parks and Recreation Department

## Youth and Family Engagement

### Activities

Week of January 10 – January 14, 2022

#### Toilet Paper Bowling

Aim for a strike with toilet paper bowling. Stack toilet paper rolls into a pyramid and use a soup can or a ball for an easy (and quiet) game of bowling! Stack the rolls in different shapes or at different heights to shake up the game.

#### Sound Mapping

**Materials:** Piece of paper (one for each participant), pencil or pen, compass (optional)

**Directions:**

1. Go somewhere in your house, your backyard, a park, or another place with lots of different sounds
2. When you've found your spot, put a mark in the center of your paper. Your mark can be an "X," a dot, or even a drawing of yourself. This mark represents you. The blank space around your mark represents your surroundings.
3. If you'd like, use a compass to mark north, east, south, and west on your map.
4. Close your eyes and listen for any sounds.
5. When you hear a sound, notice the direction the sound is coming from. Is the sound moving or is it still?
6. Mark the sound on your paper in the direction you heard it. If the sound came from your right, put a mark on the right side of your paper. Draw or write what sounds you heard to help you remember later.
7. Continue listening and filling your paper with all the sounds you heard.
8. Review your map. If doing this experiment with friends, it's always fun to share your data.

#### Leaf Rubbings

Gather pretty leaves, branches, or twigs. Lay the items out on a table and grab two pieces of paper and crayons. Lay one leaf on a piece of paper and place the other piece of paper on top. Hold the leaf in place by pressing down on the paper and rub the side of a crayon across the leaf. You'll start to see the print of the leaf come through almost like magic! Repeat to make a collage with all of the items you've collected and use different colors.