

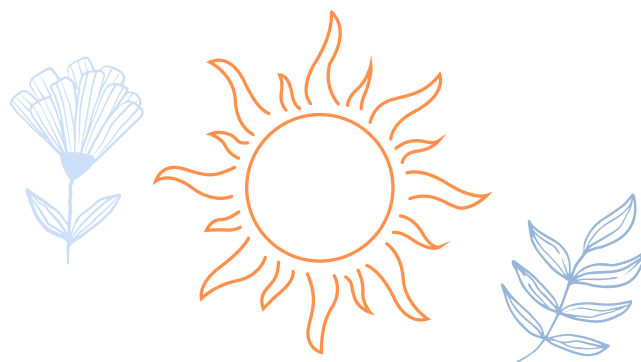
# PHOTOGRAPHY, BOTANY, OH MY!



Unlike other forms of photography, creating a cyanotype is a much simpler form that relies on the power of the sun. The easiest way to experiment with a cyanotype is to purchase sun printing paper from a store or online. Another option is to experiment using blue construction paper that you may already have and is less expensive.

First, go on a nature hunt to select objects you wish to use in your artwork. We recommend leaves, sticks, seashells, or other natural elements that you may find in your yard or neighborhood.

Once you have your objects, all you need is a sunny day, your paper, and your items. If using sun print paper, follow the directions on the package for best results. If using construction paper, the process may take several days depending on how much sun the paper is exposed to. We suggest arranging your items on your paper in a well-lit window, where it can sit undisturbed until the color change is noticeable.



*Fun fact: This process was how copies of technical or architectural plans were first made. Thus, giving us the term blueprints!*

March Book of the Month

*The Bluest of Blues: Anna Atkins and the First Book of Photographs*

Author and illustrator Fiona Robynson introduces readers to Anna Atkins, a 19th century botanist and photographer, who was the first to publish a book of photography. In “The Bluest of Blues: Anna Atkins and the First Book of Photographs,” Robynson explores how Atkins combined her talents by taking photographs of plant specimens to catalogue them.