Make Cyanotype Prints

1. Gather leaves and wildflowers and press them in a book for a few days. You could also bring in flat objects that would cast an interesting shadow, like lace or paper cutouts.
2. Cyanotype paper reacts to sunlight, so we store it in a light-proof box. Get a sheet of cyanotype paper from the box and keep it away from sunlight until you are ready to make your exposure.
3. Out of the sun, place the cyanotype paper on top of something flat, like your folder or binder (to support the paper). Place flat objects in an interesting arrangement on the cyanotype paper, then lay a clear piece of glass (or Plexiglass) over everything to keep the objects flat against the paper.
4. Take the whole thing outside and expose it to the sun for 5-15 minutes. Try not to let the pieces move around. You will have to experiment to find the correct exposure. Start with 10 minutes. More exposure causes the exposed paper to turn darker.
5. After exposing the print, rinse it (just the cyanotype paper) in water for a couple minutes. Do this until the water runs clear.
6. Write your name and hour on a piece of paper towel and lay your print on the paper towel to dry.
7. In your notebook, record the exposure time for each print. (You will need to number or title your prints to keep accurate data.)
8. Save your best prints to share in class. When you share yours, talk about 1) the exposure time and light conditions, 2) what went well and what you like about their best prints, and 3) what you could do better next time.

**Daily Jobs:**

Group 1: Collect the Plexiglas sheets and stack them on the shelves.

Group 2: Return pressing books to their place and straighten them out.

Group 3: Clean up paper and scraps.

Group 4: Clean up leaves and things.

Group 5: Rinse and collect the water trays.

Group 6: Bring in the tables from outside.

Group 7: Check that wet prints are labeled with name and hour and in the proper place.