

# Anthotype printing

Outdoor, Age – 8 – 16, Cost in £– 0

Curriculum areas - Biology, Art, Food Tech.

An anthotype is an image made from plant based materials soaked into paper. Over a period of time, often days or weeks, the area exposed to sunlight bleaches, leaving an image of the plant or object which has been placed on the paper.

Due to the long duration of time required, flat objects are preferable as they can be clamped in a clip frame.



[Real Photography Company Anthotype worksheet here](#)

[Real Photography Company Anthotype video here](#)



Over the past few years the Anthotype's popularity has grown in the experimental photography world due to it being environmentally friendly compared to the unsustainable chemical and plastic based photography of traditional approaches. Anthotypes also enable people to be in touch with the pre-history of photography.

Exposures are often long, sometimes up to several weeks in sunlight, which can restrict school projects to the Spring and Summer terms however the potential for creating a 'slow art' project which requires time is invaluable in the 'instant answer' era of today.

Similar to solargraphy, using anthotypes in the classroom is something to initiate and leave until the time is right for images to be uncovered.

The most reliable plant to use is spinach which takes a few days to 'prepare' along with watercolour paper which absorbs the plant solution.

The Real Photography Company resources above were created during lockdown and are first-hand information rather than being copied from other websites, the techniques were refined from scratch



[Alternative Photography.com](#)

Anthotype information. Amazing online resource that will come up many times in this site.

[Northern Sustainable Darkroom](#)

Aspiring towards true sustainability. The Greenwash stops here.