

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 rather than silver. 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 durations of time required flat objects are advisable as they can be clamped in a clip frame.



Cyanotype and turmeric photography takes a far shorter time and are dealt with elsewhere.



Over the past few years its popularity has grown in the experimental photography world due mainly to its being environmentally friendly compared to the unsustainable chemical and plastic based photography encountered with many 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 restricts school projects to the spring and summer however the potential for creating a 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 Real Photography Company 'sun printing' resources.

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

These resources were created during lockdown and are first-hand information where instead of copying from other websites, the techniques were refined from scratch

[Real Photography Company Anthotype worksheet here](#)

[Real Photography Company Anthotype video here](#)

[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.

