# ACTIVITY GUUDE - NOUGHTS AND CROSSES

Connecting creatively to the landscape of the Wye Valley AONB and Forest of Dean

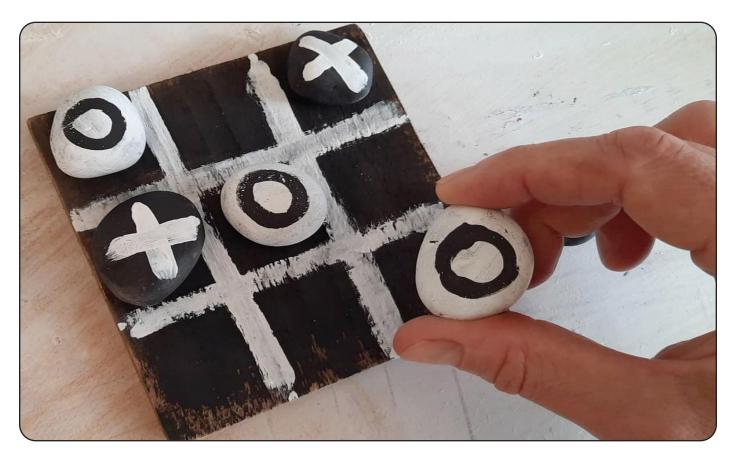








## **NAUGHTS & CROSSSES**



Turn back time and enjoy this classic game of noughts and crosses using natural materials. Have a go at making this small, portable and intergenerational game using interesting tactile objects such as wooden boards and small pebbles whilst using practical skills such as sanding and painting.

#### Activity rating

Suitable for everyone. Boards will need to be cut to size beforehand to achieve simple squares of roughly 6 inches or maybe use slices of wood or slate.

#### Time required for activity

30 mins.

#### **Preparation time**

10 mins to set up table. Boards and pebbles will need to be sourced beforehand.

### **Shopping list**

- Smooth pebbles
- Wooden board or similar
- Sandpaper for wooden board
- Black and white paint
- Paintbrushes (One suitable for painting board and pebbles and also one thin enough to paint noughts and crosses marks on pebbles)
- Pot of water
- Kitchen roll

## **NAUGHTS & CROSSSES**



#### Step by step instructions

**1.** Paint 5 pebbles using the white paint and then clean your brush thoroughly before painting the other 5 pebbles with the black paint and put to one side to dry.

**2.** Take your piece of wood and gently sand the edges or surface area to remove any obvious splinters or rough edges. Having a mask would be a personal choice.

3. Dilute a bit of black paint and cover the surface of the wooden board.

4. Check to see if your pebbles are dry. You could use a hairdryer to speed up this process.

**5.** With a thin brush, paint the white crosses on the black pebbles and then with black paint, make circles on the white pebbles.

**6.** With a clean brush and white paint, create the grid lines on the wooden board. Leave to dry for approx, an hour and you're ready to go!

#### **Top Tips**

- The smoother the pebble the better as you can clearly see the noughts and crosses.
- Also try to use similar size pebbles to achieve unity.
- Cover your table to protect them if needed and consider a mask for the sanding process.