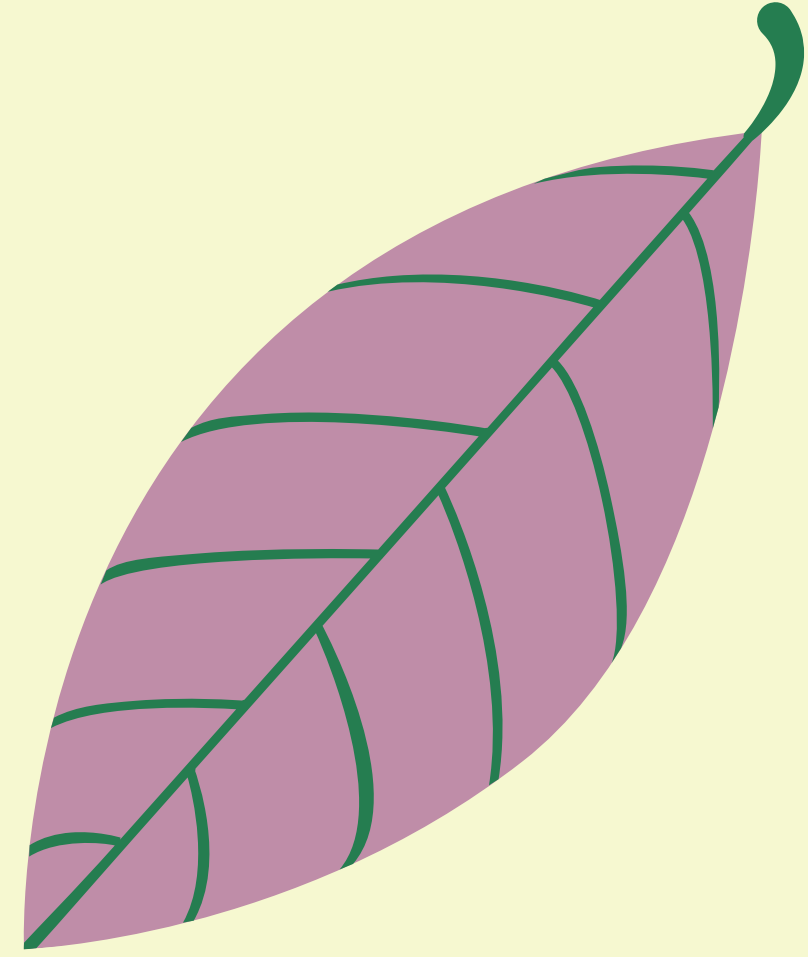


# Project

## MAKING PLANT DYES



Looking for an inexpensive and fun project to do while you're self-isolating?

This homemade dye project was inspired a large patch of dandelions in my backyard and a red cabbage that had gone a bit soft in my fridge!

You can make dyes from a wide variety of plants - don't be afraid to experiment!

### Step 1

#### *Collect your ingredients*

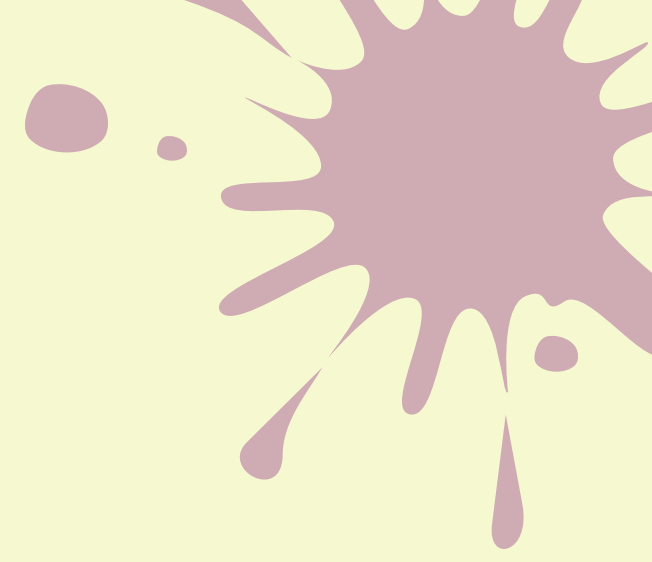
In this example I used an old 1/2 cabbage from my fridge and some dandelions from my backyard - but you could hunt for and collect many other plants to experiment with!



*Red Cabbage*



*Dandelions*



## Step 2

### *Chop your ingredients*

This creates more surface area, which helps to release more pigment from the plant



## Step 3

### *Transfer to a pot and just cover with water*



*+ add a tablespoon of salt for every cup of plant material*

Step 4

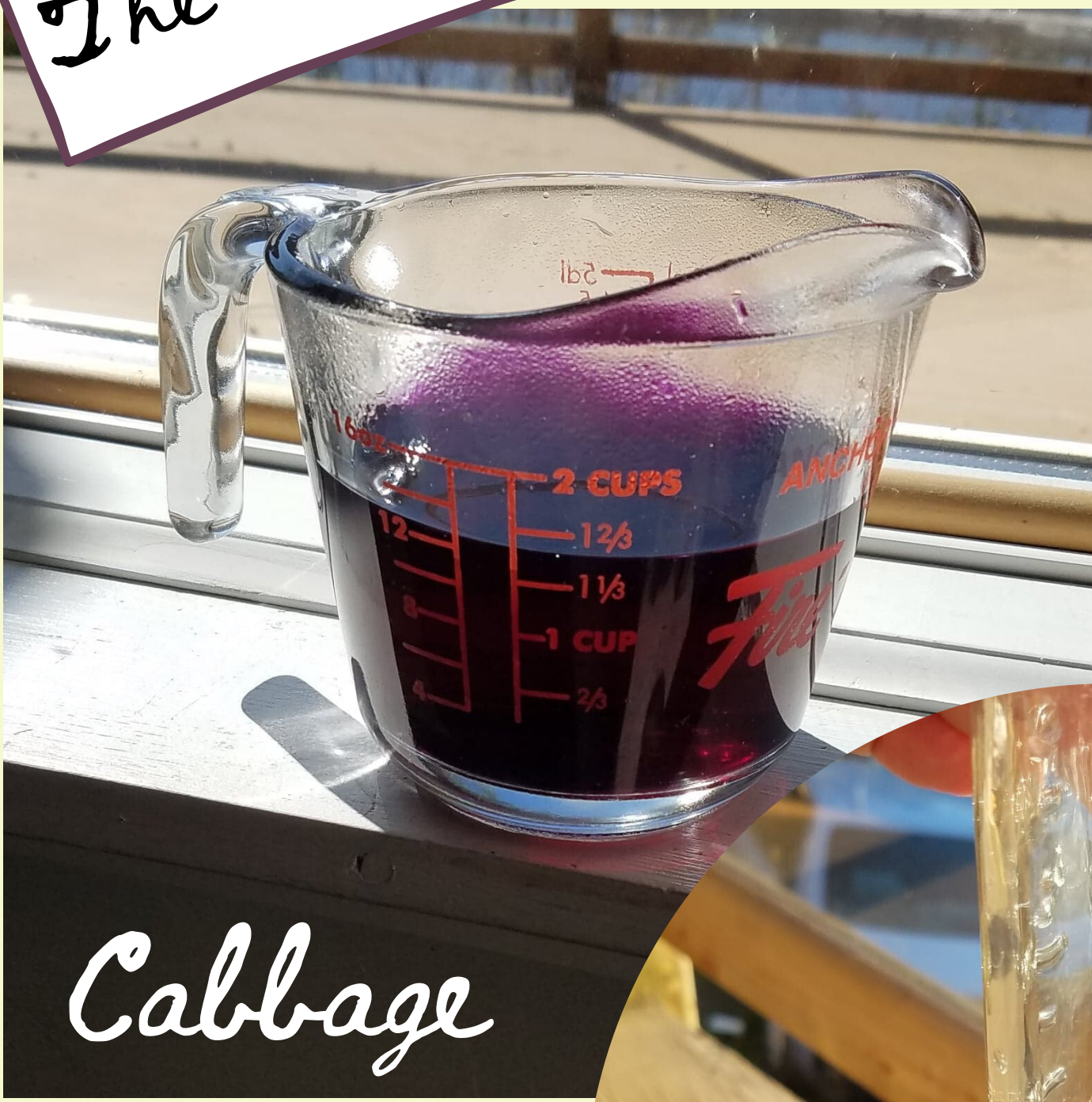
*Bring to a boil, then cover & simmer on low for 30 minutes*

Step 5

*Strain into heat safe containers*



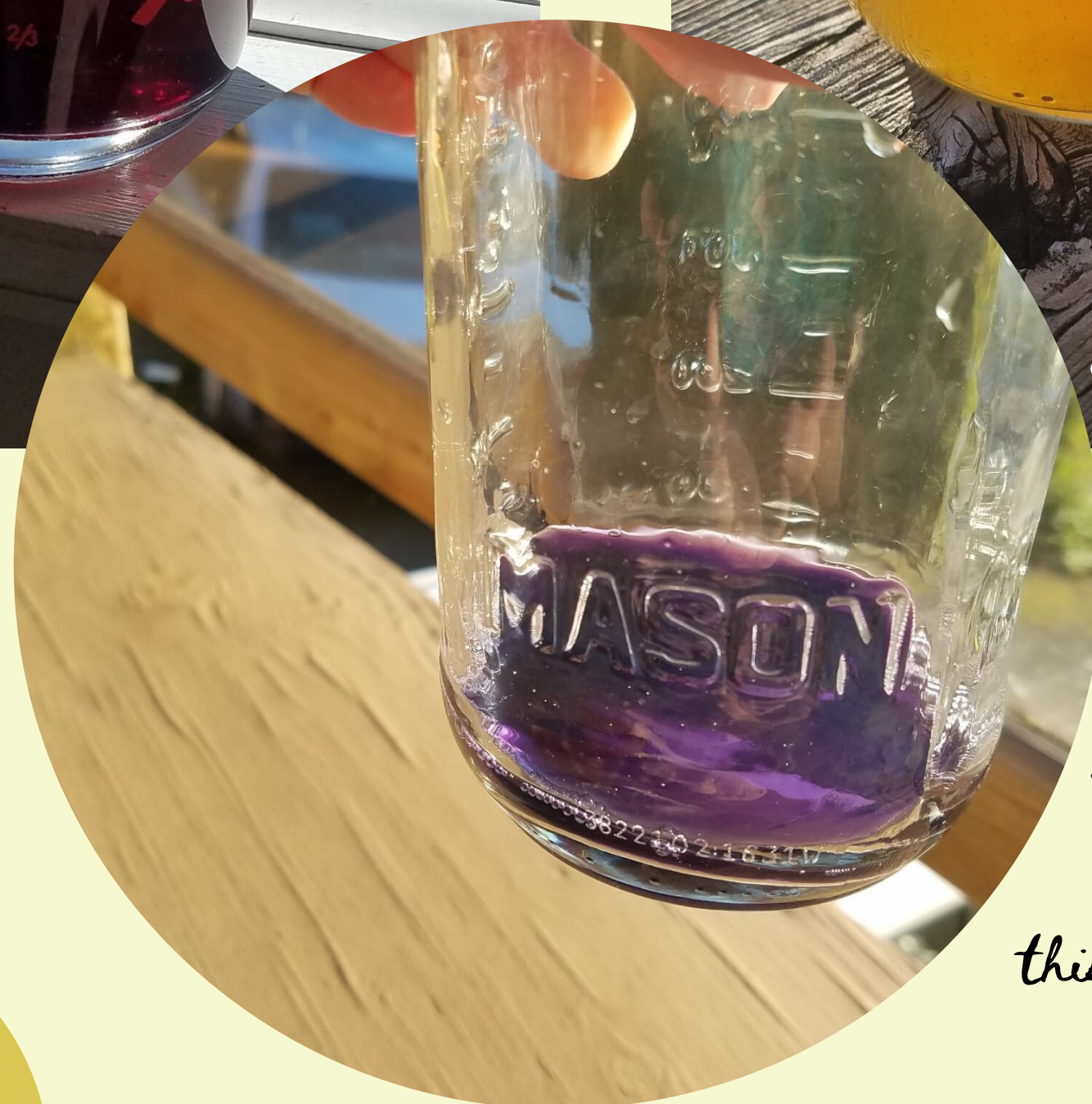
*The Results!*



*Cabbage*



*Dandelion*



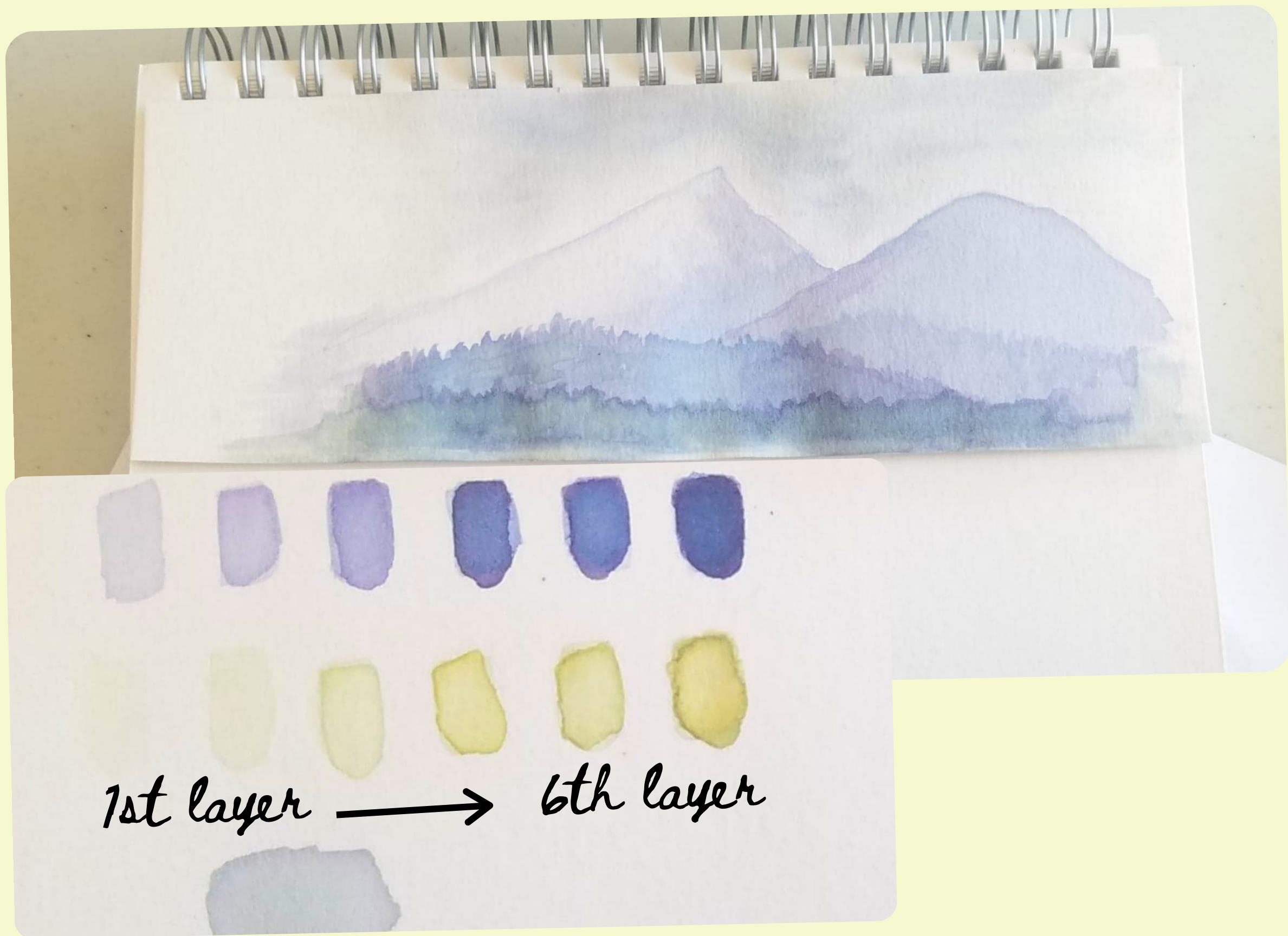
*this shows the colour a bit better!*



## Step 6

### Play!

I used it as paint on watercolour paper - but you could dip dye paper and collage or use it on fabrics, wool or even hard-boiled eggs! The colour builds slowly at first but with repeated applications you can get some great depth!



I hope you enjoy experimenting with the plants you find in your backyard!

**Fun Tip!**

\*\*for red cabbage dye\*\*

**To make it Blue**

Add a tablespoon of ammonia to create blue dye

**To make it Pink**

Add a tablespoon of white vinegar to create pink dye

