Don’t wait for the Leprechauns to bring you gold this March - Create your own from nature! Making DIY gold is a great way for children to engage in the whimsy of St. Patrick’s Day while getting outdoors and exploring the different kind of rocks that exist in their area.
**MATERIALS**

- Rocks
- Glue
- Paint Brush
- Gold Glitter
- Parchment Paper
- Disposable Cup
- Disposable Plate
- *Optional: Black Clay*

**STEPS**

1) Go for a nature walk! March is a beautiful time to get outside and notice the earth transitioning to spring. Ask children what they observe: Are there clouds in the sky? What is the temperature like? Are there puddles? Where did they come from? Are birds singing? Is it especially green out? Are there any buds beginning to poke out on tree branches? Are there any blossoms or bulbs emerging from the soil? Are there any nests in trees?

2) Gather rocks! Walk around and explore the different types of rocks in your area. Gather a variety and explore their differences and similarities. What colors are they? What shapes are they? Do some have many colors in one? Do some have crystals in them? Are some heavy and some light? Why do you think this is?

3) Once home, spread your rocks out on a table and set them aside.

4) Lay a piece of parchment paper out on the table, pour some glue into a disposable cup, and sprinkle a generous amount of gold glitter onto a disposable plate.

5) One by one, begin to paint your rocks with glue. Once they are covered, roll them in the gold glitter.

6) When the rocks are completely covered in glitter, place them on the parchment paper to dry. They won’t stick to parchment paper.

7) Optional: We made little pots out of black clay to create pots of gold!

8) Enjoy your gold! Hide it for children to find, display it for St. Patrick’s Day decorations, or give it as a gift!
Happy St. Patrick’s Day!

Learn more about leprechaun lore [HERE]!
Learn more about gold [HERE]!
Learn more about rocks [HERE]!