



Wildcraft Dyeing provides fiber-based workshops, we only need a relatively well-ventilated space, tables, and a sink.

Note: we are based in Vancouver, BC. Prices below are in Canadian dollars and do not include fees for recording or live broadcasting. Additional travel costs may be required. All workshops are designed to be adaptable for adult participants, as well as elementary or high school students.

Following Workshops offered by Zoe McDonell

1. How to Dye with Plants and Mushrooms (1 Day, Max. 12 people):



An introduction to the magic and wonder of natural dyeing; a place where science, history, science and fiber come together. We will be exploring the variety of options for dye sources in and around your local area. Students will learn everything they need to know to dye their own projects. Each student will create a reference of dye samples to help guide further dyeing as well as their own sample skein to dye and take home.



2. Science and Artistry of Fungi (1 Day, Max. 12 people):

This workshop will explore the amazing world of mushrooms. From their importance in our ecosystems to how to identify, forage and process them for natural dyeing. We will cover dyeing with a wide variety of mushrooms. This is the perfect class for people interested in learning more about mushroom foraging as well as how to massively increase their colour palette for future fiber projects. Fungi are the





ecological anchors of our forests and we're only now starting to explore their importance to life on this planet. Each student will create a reference of dye samples to help guide further dyeing as well as their own sample skein to dye and take home.

3. How to Forage and Dye with Plants, Lichens and Mushrooms (2-3 Days, Max. 10 people)

A more in-depth workshop which includes a guided walk through the local forests looking for the plants, lichens and mushrooms which give us different colours, with an extensive natural dyeing component. If possible, we will also harvest materials for the class. The dyeing component will consist of using a variety of local and exotic plants, lichens, and mushrooms. Each student will create a reference of dye samples, a sample skein and additional dye days can be added to create sufficient dyed materials for further fiber arts such as knitting, weaving, etc.



4. How to Dye with Indigo (1 Day, Max. 12 people)

Let's deep dive into this gorgeous and ancient blue dye. In this workshop we will cover setting up and dyeing with a vat of indigo and how to recharge it for endless shades of rich, vibrant blues. The class can cover yarn, students are encouraged to bring small natural fiber fabric pieces, including plant fiber articles like cotton or linen canvas shopping bags, to experiment with, etc.

Class will also explore historical and cultural aspects of dyeing with Indigo and its importance around the world.





Zoe McDonell, MSc, RPBio is a Vancouver-based, British settler-descent who specializes in dyeing using the plants, windfall lichens and mushrooms from the forests. She has been teaching workshops, lectures and demonstrations on historical natural dye techniques and other fiber arts for over 20 years.

When not dyeing, Zoe is an ecologist and studies how forest communities can be effectively managed for better conservation.



Participant Review:

"It was very interactive, which makes it much easier to retain the knowledge learned. I also enjoyed both the traditional history of natural dyeing... and the nerdy biology specifics to mushrooms, lichens and plants." - Student, Museum of Vancouver