

165 EYE DROPPER PAINTING

Teaches your children how to mix the three basic colours to form new ones.

WHAT YOU NEED

- Red, yellow or blue powder paint or food colouring mixed with water
- Plastic eye droppers (cheap to buy or save the ones that come with children's medicines) • Paper

WHAT TO DO

A good activity to do on a table or tarp outside or, if it's going to be an inside activity, spread lots of newspaper on your table.

Provide three jars or paint pots with the basic colours of red, yellow and blue and three eye droppers. Provide plenty of paper and let your children experiment with making new colours.

Encourage them not to make the paper too wet with paint or it tears when hung up. Wet paintings can be hung on a clothes horse to dry or even on the clothes line.

Sometimes it is fun to wet the paper first with plain water and see what happens when the colours are squirted on. (Use small bottles of food colouring.)

(Also see Colour Mixing – Activity 153 for more eye dropper fun.)

166 TENNIS BALL PAINTING

Children love watching the patterns and new colours form as the balls roll around.

WHAT YOU NEED

- Paper • Baking dish • Poster or acrylic paints
- Plastic yoghurt, margarine or take-away containers • Old tennis balls • Dessertspoons

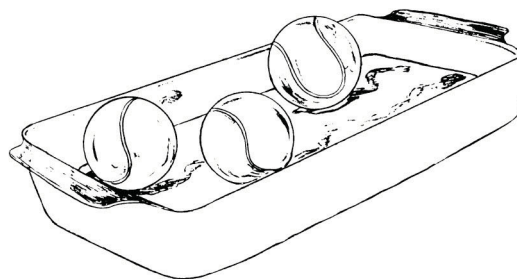
WHAT TO DO

Lay a sheet of paper inside the baking dish and spoon a little paint of each colour into the plastic containers.

Put a tennis ball into each container and the children can use the spoon to cover it with paint.

They then lift a couple of the balls into the baking dish and tilt it from side to side so that the balls roll around, mixing the paints, making new colours and spreading them into interesting shapes and patterns.

If you only use primary colours this will help teach younger children about how new colours are made. Yellow and red – orange, yellow and blue – green, and red and blue – purple.



Keep the paper for very individual wrapping paper for gifts.

167 BEACH ART AT HOME

Collect lots of beach treasures with the children to enable them to enjoy creating some beach art at home.

WHAT YOU NEED

- Bits and pieces from the beach such as seaweed, sponges, shells, small stones, little pieces of driftwood, beach grass and so on • Strong wood glue • Cardboard

WHAT TO DO

Take some buckets or other containers to the beach and, before you go home, go for a walk with the children to gather lots of treasures. Save them for a rainy day or a day when everyone is tired or bored. Spread them out on a table and provide some wood glue in small dishes or plastic containers with brushes and a variety of cardboard.

This messy activity is ideal to do on a table out-of-doors and any leftover bits and pieces can simply be hosed or swept into the garden.

You will be amazed at the wonderful creations the children will make, and they will be very special mementos of a day or holiday at the beach for your children.

