

A YEAR OF ARTS & CRAFTS

Process Art

Paint ice with watercolor

- Freeze water in different size and shaped containers
- Let the kids paint the ice using watercolors

Printmaking

- Etch into Styrofoam using a toothpick
- Paint the Styrofoam
- Flip Styrofoam over and press onto white paper

Paper Plate Twisting

- Two white paper plates
- Place a few globs of paint on one plate
- Place another plate on top
- Have your child twist the plates around in his/her hands
- Lift the plates off each other and reveal the masterpiece!

What can we draw from a circle?

- Make a bunch of circles on a paper (large and small or all one size)
- Have the kids turn the circles into whatever they choose
 - Some ideas are:
 - Add stripes
 - Add dots
 - Different color shades
 - Bumblebee
 - Fish

Blowing Paint

- Water down the paint so it can move across the page
- Add different color blobs to the paper and use a straw or blow dryer to move the paint around

Watercolor and Salt

- Draw a picture with white glue on paper
- Sprinkle salt on the glue while it is still wet and shake off the excess
- Allow the glue to dry
- Take some watercolor on a paintbrush (or in a pipette) and carefully dab the brush onto the glue. It will spread slightly and you can overlap colors to mix.

Cotton ball Painting

- Clasp a cotton ball with a clothespin
- Dip the cotton into paint

*the possibilities of this activity are endless. The child can dot the paint into random patterns, use the paint to fill in a shape, or use different cotton balls to look at paint color mixing.

Tape Resist Art

- Use painter's tape to block off parts of the paper (for variation use cardboard, paper plates, lunch bags, etc).
- Paint the paper with either watercolors, acrylics, pastels, etc. (it's okay if the paint goes on the tape)
- Pull off the tape to reveal the pattern

No paintbrush painting

- Lay out a bunch of tools to use for painting
 - Sponge
 - Fork
 - Potato masher

Balloon Printing

<https://www.musely.com/tips/Balloon-PrintingSo-Cool/10309296>

- Blow up a small balloon
- Dip into a bowl of paint
- Plop the balloon onto paper



Bubble Painting

<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/471822498471280119/>

- 2 T paint
- 1 -2 T water
- 2 T dish soap
- Straw
- Cardstock paper

Mix together the paint, water and dish soap in a bowl. Dip one end of the straw into the mixture and blow onto paper or blow the straw into the bowl to make bubbles on the surface and pat the paper on top of the bubbles. Let dry and create it into monsters, animals, words, etc or leave abstract.

Crafts

Hot Chocolate Dipping Sticks (a great Tween/Teen activity to give as gifts)



https://gluesticksblog.com/hot-chocolate-sticks?utm_medium=social&utm_source=pinterest&utm_campaign=tailwind_tribes&utm_content=tribes

Makes 6 Hot Chocolate Sticks

Ingredients:

1 c. of melting chocolates or chocolate chips

3 T. powdered sugar

8 drops flavoring oil (optional)

toppings (peppermint candy, semi-sweet chocolate chips, freeze dried marshmallows, etc.)

- Place chocolates into a bowl microwave for 30 seconds. Stir. Continue microwaving in 10 second intervals (stirring after each interval) until smooth. Add flavoring oil. Stir in powdered sugar.
- Mix until smooth.
- Spoon mixture into a mini muffin pan or ice cube tray, filling each cup about 1/2 to 2/3 full. Add a popsicle stick and top with crushed candy canes, Oreo crumbs, chocolate chips, or sprinkles!
- Freeze until hard, about 20 minutes. Gently pop out of tray.

To use: Stir one stick into a cup of hot milk until melted.

Lunch Bag Photo Album

<https://www.thismamaloves.com/make-a-paper-lunch-bag-photo-album-for-mothers-day-or-any-day/>



Supplies:

- paper lunch bags
- adhesive

- scissors
 - hole punch
 - ribbon- curling ribbon, grosgrain, twine or raffia
 - scrapbooking paper, or construction paper
1. Stack your bags (3-4 works best, 4 will be a little tougher to get your hole punch through) alternating the stack with open end, closed end
 2. Fold stacked bags in half (you want a good crease if possible just so it helps stay in position when punching the holes)
 3. Punch holes so you can get your ribbon to tie
 4. Tie ribbon through holes
 5. Decorate (we used \$1 scrapbook packs from Target- 6 pages all coordinating but you can really use just about anything)
 6. You can also do some cardstock or double up paper to cut to the size of the bag opening and tuck in for extra photos. We like to put a tab of some sort onto this to make pulling it out easier.
 7. Add photos, stickers, writing if you like- or let the kids write a story or poem and illustrate it and mount those onto the pages, and VOILA!

Thematic Art

Autumn

Paint with leaves

- Collect some dry leaves
- Paint the underside with acrylic paint.
- Lay on a canvas
- Mix and match colors and leaves to make a collage or painting



<https://www.ronyestech.com>

Beaded Pipe Cleaner Pumpkins (great for fine motor skills!)

- Take an orange pipe cleaner and orange beads and have your child string the beads onto the pipe cleaner
- Loop the pipe cleaner into a circle and shape into a pumpkin
 - Leave a little space to add a stem
- Take a small piece of green pipe cleaner (approx.. ¼ of the pipe cleaner)
- String some green beads onto the green pipe cleaner
- Attach the stem to the pumpkin by twisting together



<https://www.makeandtakes.com/beaded-pipe-cleaners-pumpkins>

Mummy Paper Plate



<https://www.ourkidthings.com/mummy-paper-plate-lacing-craft/>

Homemade Manipulatives

DIY Geoboard

- Cut off the flap of a shipping box
- Push pushpins into the cardboard in an array.
- Use rubber bands to create designs



<https://themamaworkshop.com>

DIY Toilet Paper Roll Blocks

In order to make them stack better, this mom added paper circles to the ends of each one.

Decorate them as you wish.

<https://swoodsonsays.com/diy-recycled-toilet-paper-roll-building-blocks/>



Recipes

Air Dry Clay

4 oz cornstarch

4 oz glue

1 T vegetable or baby oil

1 T lemon juice or white vinegar

Mix it all together and it is ready to be sculpted.

Colorful Rice (for sensory play)

Dry white rice

Acrylic paint

Ziploc bags

Tray

- Divide the rice into Ziploc bags.
- Add some dollops of paint into each bag (keep the colors separated).
- Close the bag and mix up the rice.
- Spread out the rice on a tray to dry.
- Once dry it is ready to use!

****try adding some essential oil to the rice for some extra sensory play! *****

Pumpkin Spice Playdough

<https://www.smallfriendly.com/small-friendly/2012/11/pumpkin-spice-playdough.html>

Ingredients:

- 1 cup flour
- 1 cup water
- 1/4 cup of salt (a little more if you use kosher)
- 1 tablespoon coconut oil
- 2 teaspoons cream of tartar
- 2 teaspoons pumpkin pie spice (or a mix of cinnamon/nutmeg/cloves)
- optional: food coloring or natural food-based dyes (such as beet juice and turmeric)



Directions:

1. Combine all ingredients (except coloring) in a large pot.
2. Stir over medium heat until a big ball forms. (It should be smooth and no longer sticky.)
3. Remove from pot and allow to cool until the dough can be worked by hand.
4. Divide the dough into however many different colors you want.
5. Work the colors into the dough by adding a few drops at a time and kneading. (We used food coloring for red, yellow, and orange and left one brown. Similar colors could be achieved with natural juices: beet, carrot, turmeric.)
6. Enjoy!

Marshmallow Edible Slime

<https://littlebinsforlittlehands.com/make-marshmallow-edible-slime-recipe-taste-safe/?epik=dj0yJnU9ZDNtZlVDRDBPX0JaMW14N3JKb01vSXZyMkIJRFBVmwmcD0wJm49eIVjeU9xclF5TmYwaktRMUJRcXd3dyZ0PUFBQUFBROY1dzZl>

(Be very careful, the substance will be VERY hot)

- 6 jumbo marshmallows
 - 1 T cooking oil
 - ½ - 1 T cornstarch
1. Put marshmallows in microwave-safe bowl and pour 1 T oil into bowl.
 2. Microwave on high for 30 seconds.
 3. Add ½ T cornstarch and mix.
 4. As it cools, start kneading it and playing with it.