

Art & Craft Guide - June 2015

Overview:

- **Art** options are focused on the skill of creative expression - more open ended, less directed, and offer a variety of tools and materials for children to choose from and create freely.
- **Craft** options are a little more structured and incorporate the goal of exercising **fine motor skills** that involve cutting, gluing, tearing, ripping, building, etc. These are also more project oriented and teacher guided. These options can be used in your Fine Motor center and you will notice occurrences in this month's curriculum that specify *"Choose a Craft from the Art & Craft Guide."*
- **Unless otherwise noted, all activities are OK for toddlers through SA, with the understanding that adults must provide appropriate supervision and age-appropriate materials.**

Safety:

In all classrooms (all ages and all states), teachers are responsible for (1) providing active supervision, (2) knowing children's abilities well, and (3) using good judgment about which materials each child can safely use. Even when an activity is considered "OK for all ages" adults must keep safety in mind. Please give specific attention to the following:

- **Shaving cream is no longer permitted in any of our centers. Be creative in providing equally messy opportunities to play. Let us know if you have any suggestions in addition to our approved substitute list!**
- **Glitter** is not permitted in infant rooms due to concerns about children's eyes and is not recommended in toddler rooms for the same reason. To substitute, some teachers dye sugar with food coloring for the same effect (which sparkles and is safer for children).
- **Chokables (any item small enough to fit in the choke tube, including wiggle eyes)** are not permitted in infant and toddler rooms and should be monitored in all classrooms. In PA, licensing reps even expressed concern about tissue paper in toddler rooms. Tissue paper can be used in full sheets and large pieces, but small pieces should be discarded.
- **Be aware of allergies** for arts & crafts, as well as at mealtime. Please double check allergy cards when preparing materials for arts & crafts (flour, cinnamon, etc.).

Reminders:

- **A fun, interactive art or craft is required daily, but does not necessarily have to be thematic.**
- This guide is designed to give you more flexibility to customize each daily art activity based on children's interests. Any of the options can be used at any time. Repeat activities or omit others at your discretion as you reflect on each children's interests and abilities.
- Photos are provided in this guide to help (adult) visual learners, but are not intended to be patterns to follow. Even in crafts, please always value process over product.
- As you plan, please write each choice on your daily lesson plan. When your art choice is more product-oriented (a skill builder, rather than an open-ended art experience), please be sure that (1) the easel is also open and open-ended and (2) the art cart/art center includes a variety of 'extra' materials to encourage creativity.
- Smocks are required for the majority of the options. Use your best judgment. We hold the utmost respect for the children we take care of and our philosophy does not support removal of children's clothing for art/craft activities.
- Repetition is necessary to gain mastery of a task. Therefore, art and craft projects are intended to be repeated. If projects are truly student-centered, the product will always be different.
- Please feel free to send your thoughts, concerns, and suggestions to toni.lamantia@doodlebugs.com or Jennifer.horner@doodlebugs.com and/or complete a Program Input Form at www.surveymonkey.com/r/bravoinput

ART & CRAFT - Shapely Transportation

- Provide glue and construction paper in a variety of shapes and colors.
- Children assemble shapes to create boats, submarines, cars, trucks, etc.



CRAFT - Traffic Light

- Children make glue circles on a black rectangle and cover each circle with scraps of colored paper (red, yellow, green) to resemble a traffic light.
- Alternative: Children paint 3 small paper plates (1 red, 1 yellow, one green) and glue in order on a black construction paper rectangle.



ART – Fly Swatter Painting

Fly Swatters make perfect (outdoor) paintbrushes.

- Provide a large length of bulletin board paper for a mural and extra pieces for individual work.
- Use paper plates to provide a variety of paint choices.



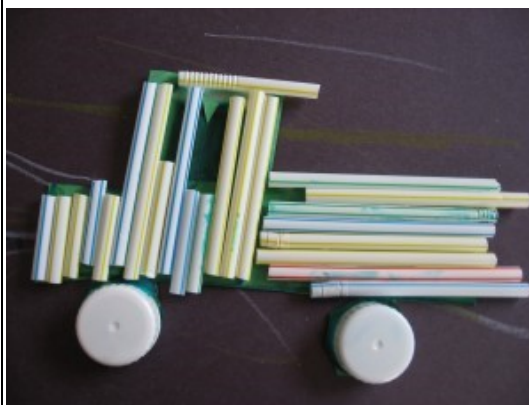
Art/Craft- Moon Crater Art

Mix flour and white paint together. Allow children to paint a moon on their black piece of construction paper. (Remember: This is totally a process oriented project. All of the pieces should not look the same!) When finished, children can make craters in the moon by flipping a water bottle upside down and making imprints using the lid. *Toddler classrooms please glue the lid onto the water bottle prior to beginning this activity.*



CRAFT - Drinking Straw Vehicles (Ages 3+)

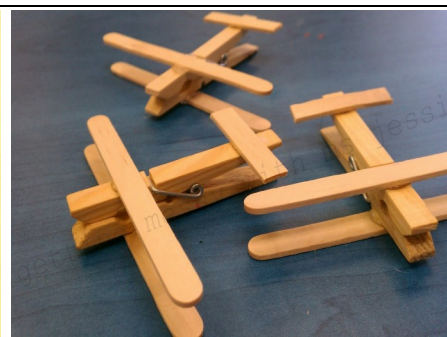
- Drinking straws, scissors, bottle caps/wheel pasta/pom poms, glue, black construction paper, chalk
- Provide students with materials to create any vehicle of their choice.
- Remind them that they can use chalk on the black paper to make a background scene, draw people, etc.



CRAFT - Airplane Craft

(Toddler teacher will need to construct planes ahead of time for children to paint and decorate)

- 2 large craft sticks, 1 small craft stick, 1 clothespin, glue, paint, *foil optional
- Guide children in constructing an airplane using the items above. Invite them to paint it and/or use foil to wrap the wings or tear foil into pieces and glue on everywhere
- You could add magnets to the back so children can take home and put them on their refrigerator to hold art work!



CRAFT - License Plates (Ages 3+)

- Provide license plate shapes cut from poster board. (You could also provide a template so children can trace and cut themselves!)
- Provide alphabet stamps & sponges, paint, and markers so children can stamp their names then write the month/year/state.



CRAFT - Sponge & Duct Tape Sailboats

- Pre-cut sponge bases ahead of time and cut index cards into squares or another shape of your choice.
- Invite each child to paint an index card and craft stick.
- Most children will need help assembling the parts to create their sailboat.
 - Cut slits in index card and insert craft sticks. Add glue to secure if you'd like.
 - Insert craft stick into sponge and use a little hot glue to secure.



Fitness Painting (2 Options)

- **Painting with Hands and Feet:** While younger children will enjoy the sensory experience alone, older children can be challenged with alternatives, like measuring friends' heights with handprints or footprints on mural paper, or seeing what kind of art emerges from doing various yoga poses with painted hands or feet.
- **Slide Painting:** Tape a length of bulletin board paper to the (outdoor) slide and invite children to dip a ball in paint, then roll it down the slide. Repeat with varied sizes, colors, and speed to create an awesome mural.



ART - Wheely Art (Outdoor Only!)

- Bulletin board paper, assorted colored paint, toys with wheels, bikes and trikes
- Place bulletin board paper on ground. Squirt several blobs of paint in various areas.
- Encourage children to work together, taking turns rolling toy vehicles, wheels, etc. through the paint on onto the paper. On trikes or bikes, children can also run over a paper plate of paint, then wheel over the paper!



ART - Hula Hoop Teamwork Paintings (Outdoor Project)

- Hula Hoops, Sidewalk Chalk Paint (1/2 cup cornstarch, 1/2 cup water, food coloring)
- Pair students up or create small teams depending on your classroom dynamic.
- Each team will need a hula hoop, sidewalk chalk paint, and brushes.
- One person will create a hula hoop shadow like the one in the photo and hold! The rest of the teammates will paint in the shadow. Each team member should get a turn with the hula hoop.
- Check out all the awesome hula hoop paintings you made!



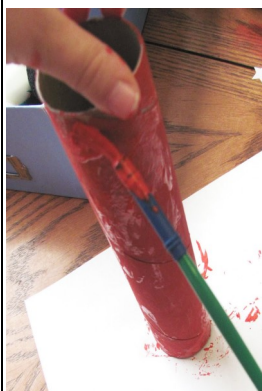
ART - Action Art (Indoor/Outdoor)

- Crayons, paint, bulletin board paper, paper plates
- Hang bulletin board paper at eye level on a bulletin board or on an outdoor space like the fence.
- Provide students with the option of crayons or paint and allow them to use their hands, fingers, brushes, and any other tool they would like to use with paint.
- Encourage them to do 'sports moves' as they make marks, i.e., running past the paper and brushing it with paint, jumping and making high five prints, skipping, sliding side to side, running backwards, pretending to ice skate, etc.



CRAFT—Making Dumbbells (Ages 3+)

- Invite children to decorate paper towel tubes.
- Once the tubes are dry, attach paper or felt circles.
- Have them tape a strip of construction paper around the tube in the middle and explain that this is where they will hold their dumbbells and therefore they should not glue anything on that part.
- Demonstrate how to hold a dumbbell and lift it up and down! They can then use the markers to decorate and glue on the miscellaneous items. They should then lace the ribbon and/or yarn into the holes around the edges.
- Use these to "work out" in your gym in dramatic play!



ART & CRAFT - Painting with Boxes and Balls

- Supersize the usual 'marble painting' by providing boxes and balls of varied sizes.
- Experiment with dropping the balls from different heights, rolling them, etc. to create different results.



CRAFT - Pennants and Flags (All Ages)

- Provide children with poster board flags or pennants and a variety of craft materials.
- Children ages 3+ are encouraged to cut out the templates themselves.
- Suggestions include a "Team (Child's Name)" flag that highlights his favorite color, and other personal preferences, or a "Go Team" idea that features favorite sports or teams. Consider using a straw as the flag pole.



ART- Bouncing Art! (Outdoors)

- Bulletin board paper, tennis balls, basketball, large paper plates, assorted colored paint
- Have children dip the balls in paint and bounce them on paper.
- Talk about what is happening! "How do the marks look? Are they different for each type of ball? What happens when you bounce the ball really high? Really low? What happens when it rolls?"



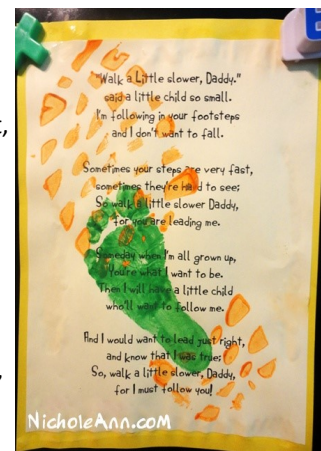
Father's Day Footprints

- Construction paper, paint, poem
- Create an art or craft to accompany the poem to the right or any other poem you'd like to use.

Suggestions:

- Provide students with a copy of the poem on colorful paper and invite them to make footprints on the poem. You could also ask a family member to bring in the father figure's shoe to add to the piece (see photo)
- Create a footprint keepsake using clay (bake or dry)
- Have children create a painting or drawing of themselves walking with a father figure in their lives and attach the poem to a corner or on the back.

"Walk a little slower, Daddy,"
Said a little child so small.
"I'm following in your footsteps,
And I don't want to fall.
Sometimes your steps are very fast,
Sometimes they are hard to see;
So walk a little slower, Daddy,
For you are leading me.
Someday when I'm all grown up,
You're what I want to be;
Then I will have a little child
Who'll want to follow me.
And I would want to lead just right,
And know that I was true;
So, walk a little slower, Daddy,
For I must follow you."



Father's Day Portraits

- Paper or paper plates, crayons or paint, any other art cart materials children wish to use
- Provide materials and invite children to draw or paint a father figure in their lives to give them as a gift!
- They could include themselves if they'd like and even include an activity they like to do together (read, cook, play sports, etc.)



Photo Pen/Pencil Holder

***Teachers cover any sharp edges with duct tape ahead of time**

- Tin cans, tissue paper, glue, water, photos of each student, art cart materials.
- Give children tissue paper and bowls of glue and water (modge podge). Encourage them to cover the outside of the can with modge podge using their hands or brushes, then cover with pieces of tissue paper.
- Add more modge podge all over and place photo and any other art cart materials they choose. Add one more layer of modge podge and let dry.
- Individually supervise them in writing their name and any other message with Sharpie.



Dad Rocks or Handprint Paper Weight

***No pebbles for Toddlers-handprint only.**

- 1/4 cup salt, 1/2 cup flour, 1/4 cup water, small pebbles/rocks, paint
- Mix ingredients with students in a bowl (multiply ingredients by the number of children in your classroom) *If sticky, add small amounts of flour. Shape balls of dough and flatten to about 1/2" thickness for each child
- Press handprint or (for ages 3+) create a design or spell something with pebbles.
- Bake at 250 degrees for 2 hours, let cool, and paint. If you prefer not to bake, you could just let them dry for several days and paint and tell families they can bake it at home and seal with acrylic sealer to preserve



ART - Texture Painting (Ages 3+)

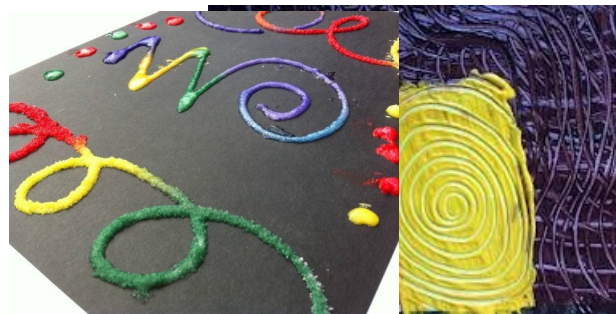
Possible textured paint recipes:

1. Shaving cream & glue (NY Only)
2. Puffy Paint (flour, salt, water, coloring)
3. Oatmeal Paint (paint & oatmeal)
4. Koolaid Paint (paint & koolaid)
5. Glitter Paint (paint & glitter)

Possible paint surfaces to experiment with:

- Sandpaper, Foil, Tissue paper, Cardboard

*You could also squeeze glue designs onto paper/cardboard/cardstock. Let dry and use as a canvas.



* Encourage students to use tools in non-conventional ways such as using the paint brush handle to carve designs into the paint)

ART - Soapy Slimy Mural

- 1 cup soap flakes, 3 cups warm water, food coloring (hand mixer if available)
- Hang bulletin board paper ahead of time outside on a flat surface or lay it on the ground.
- Mix paint with students.
- Encourage a community art mural project as they explore this super messy substance with their hands, brushes, and other art tools you provide.
- Feel free to add an extra batch to a sensory tub with tools to explore it as a sculpting sensory material as well.



ART - Rubberband Splatter Painting (Ages 3+)

- Wrap several rubber bands of varying sizes around a shoebox (plastic or cardboard) minus the top.
- Place paper the bottom of the shoebox.
- Apply a thick coat of paint to one rubber band at a time. Immediately flick the painted rubber band towards the paper to create a Jackson Pollock-quality splatter painting!



ART - Sloppy Slimy Self Portraits

- Construction paper, crayons/writing utensils, goop ingredients (each batch = 1/2 cup cornstarch, 1/4 cup water, 1/4 cup glue, food coloring)

*feel free to add any other materials to the goop

- Ask each child to draw a self portrait during Sloppy Slimy Fun Week. Tell them when they are finished with their picture, they will get to add goop to it and slime themselves to show how much messy fun they had during the week.
- Let dry for several days.



ART - Swirly Prints

- Use squeeze bottles of paint to challenge fine motor muscles.
- Encourage children to make swirly designs on paper plates.
- Then, press a blank piece of construction paper on top to make a print.
- Keep making prints on the same paper and see how the paper and paper plate change with each press.



ART – Sticky Collage

- Use contact paper (sticky side up) on the table, floor, or even outdoors (on the exterior wall, fence, or ground) as the canvas for a collage.
- Provide a variety of paper scraps and decorative materials, using caution with children under 3 to avoid choking hazards.



ART- Ice Sculptures

- Plastic cups/containers—1 per student, water, food coloring, and any art cart materials you wish to provide (beads, glitter, sequins, tissue paper, etc.)
- Provide each student with their own cup/container, access to water, and a variety of art cart materials.
- Tell them they are going to make an ice sculpture by placing their own unique mix of materials, color, and water into a cup/container and then freezing it!
- Freeze cups.
- Later, take frozen sculptures outside to investigate them in a water sensory bin that will help get the ice out of the cup.

*Add cardboard and have children paint with their sculpture!



CRAFT - Yarn Baskets (Ages 3+)

- Prepare a space to make baskets by covering it with bulletin board paper. (Outside is another great location!)
- Wrap a small plastic container in plastic wrap.
- Cut strips of yarn about 17in. long. (This would be a good opportunity to get out a few yardsticks and encourage children to measure.)
- Soak the yarn in a shallow dish of glue (slightly diluted with water)
- Pull out strands and drape over plastic-covered bowl.
- Once the bowl is covered, let dry overnight.
- Remove container and peel plastic away from strings.



ART– Planet Ball Painting

Cut big circles out of paper. Then tape to the bottom of a shoe box. Place a golf ball inside the shoe box with some paint and allow children to roll the ball around. Take the newly painted planet out of the shoebox and let dry. Once dry add a “ring” around the circle!



ART– Ages 3+ Marshmallow Painting

Stick a marshmallow to the end of a popsicle stick. Provide generous amounts of orange, yellow, and red paint. Allow children to paint with the marshmallow!



ART/ CRAFT– Ages 3+ Super Hero Art

Take a picture of children posing as a superhero! Provide them with a copy of this picture and open art materials. (scissors, construction paper, watercolors) Allow them to create an “If I was a superhero” scene! (Remember: This should be completely process oriented. Let the children decide what their scene should look like.)



ART - Crayon Resistant Art

- Invite children to draw with crayons, then paint over it with watercolors.



ART- Outer Space Squish Art

Place space shaped cutouts in a plastic baggie. Add different colors of paint to the inside of the bag. Have children squish around the paint to create a colorful masterpiece!



CRAFT - Paper Tube Sand Castles

- Use paper tubes of various sizes to assemble your castle.
- Glue completed castle onto a paper plate. Brush diluted glue over castle and plate.



Craft/ Art– Mickey Mouse Sun Catchers

- Create a mickey mouse template on paper and trace onto construction paper.
- Cut a circle out of the center of each mickey leaving the ears intact.
- Have children stick pieces of tissue paper to contact paper. Then, have them press their contact paper over the circle you cut out in the middle of Mickey!
- Punch a hole in the top to hang from the windows!



CRAFT - Salt/Sugar “Sand Art” Bottles

- Small plastic bottles, salt, sugar, food coloring, containers, forks, spoons, funnels, straws
- Place piles of salt in various containers. Drop several drops of food coloring in each and have students stir them with forks until color is blended. Then, provide containers, funnels, spoons, and straws and let them create!
*The straws can be used to make unique designs in the containers as shown in the photo.

