

Rolling Ball Painting

3+

Materials

Paper
Shallow boxes
Tempera paint
Spoons
Marbles or golf balls

What to do

1. Place a piece of paper in a box.
2. Invite the children to spoon two or three colors of paint onto the paper.
3. Have the children drop three or four marbles or golf balls in the box, then tilt the box back and forth and sideways. The balls will create a design as they roll through the paint.

More to do

More art: Do the same activity using large boxes so that two or three children can make a design together, or cover the bottom of a small plastic swimming pool with paper, squirt paint on the paper, and add tennis balls; encourage the class to work together.

Movement: Have the children roll balls back and forth indoors or outside.

Related books

Frederick by Leo Lionni
Growing Colors by Bruce McMillan
Of Colors and Things by Tana Hoban

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Plastic Wrap Painting

3+

Materials

Tempera paint
Plastic spoons
Paper
Plastic wrap

Colors

What to do

1. Have the children spoon two or three colors of paint onto their paper.
2. Cut a piece of plastic wrap slightly larger than the paper.
3. Lay the piece of plastic wrap over the paper.
4. Encourage the children to gently rub and twist the wrap with their fingertips, squishing the colors together.
5. Let the painting dry with the plastic wrap on it. The plastic wrap will stick, creating an interesting effect.

More to do

Language and Math: Older children can write alphabet letters and numbers with their fingers.

More art: Provide the children with fingerpaint and trays for a similar project.

Related books

Little Blue and Little Yellow by Leo Lionni

Mouse Paint by Ellen Stoll Walsh

Who Said Red? by Mary Serfozo

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Tissue Paper Collage

3+

Materials

Liquid laundry starch
Containers
Tissue paper in various colors
Scissors
White construction paper
Small brushes

What to do

1. Before class, pour about 2" (5 cm) of liquid starch into each container.
2. Cut the tissue paper into 2" (5 cm) squares, or tear the tissue into small pieces.
3. Show the children how to apply the starch to the paper with the brush.
4. Have them lay squares of tissue paper where they have applied the starch, overlapping the squares to create new colors.
5. When the first area is covered with squares, have the children brush another area with starch and begin again.