

Mixed-Media Rainbows



Supplies

- * Watercolor Paper
- * Oil Pastels
- * Watercolors (Liquid or Pan)
- * Paintbrushes
- * Cups of Water
- * Cotton Balls
- * Glue
- * Salt

Directions

1. Invite the child to draw a rainbow in the correct order (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple).
2. Use the watercolors to then paint the white spaces between the arches of the rainbow (ex: red watercolor on the red arch, etc.).
3. Paint the background blue (or any "sky color" of your choosing).
4. When the background paint is **still wet**, sprinkle on some salt and observe the reaction.
5. Use cotton balls and glue to add "clouds" to the bottom of the rainbow.

Skills

- * Creating a rainbow in correct color order
- * Exploring the "resist technique" (seeing how the watercolor does not blend with the oil pastel)
- * Observing the chemical reaction of salt & watercolor
- * Building understanding that real-life objects can be reproduced through art media

Vocabulary

- * Arch
- * Background
- * Color
- * Curvature
- * Focal Point
- * Line
- * Media

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Dear Family,

Today we made these “mixed-media” rainbows! “Mixed-media” is the term used when using various types of materials for one project - in this case paint, oil pastel, salt, glue, and cotton balls (whew!). We think the rainbows are so cheerful and full of beauty!



Home Extension Opportunities

- * Let's make a mixed-media project at home! All we need to do is use at least two different types of art materials (ex: crayons and watercolors) to create one cohesive piece. What can we make together?
- * The shape of a rainbow is an arch. Let's go on an “arch hunt” at home. Can we find anything in our home that is this shape? What about if take a walk around the block? What about on our drive to the store?
- * What causes rainbows? How about a trip to the library or an internet search to learn more!

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