



# 101+ Art Activity Ideas

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# List of Basic Art Supplies

The basic art forms are:



**Drawing**



**Painting**



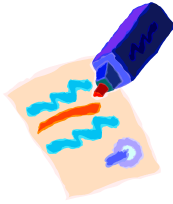
**Collage**



**Clay**



**Sculpture**



## Drawing with...

### Crayons

Use colored or white paper and draw with crayons. They have a familiar smell and come in many colors. Good for kids.

### Markers

Use colored or white paper and draw with markers. Kids and adults love markers. This is good for someone who doesn't like to get messy.

### Oil Pastels (or Craypas)

Use colored or white paper and draw with oil pastels. They come in bright colors and show up better than crayons. Try to blend the colors with your fingers to create a soft effect.

### Soft Pastels

Use colored or white paper and draw with soft pastels. They come in bright colors and you can easily blend them with your fingers or a tissue. You can also try dipping them in water and drawing with them when the pastel is wet. It creates a different "painterly" look.

### Colored Pencils

Use white paper and draw with colored pencils. This is great for someone who doesn't like to get messy and they come in nice colors. Teach various techniques such as blending, layering colors, cross-hatching etc.

### Charcoal Sticks or Pencils

If you want to do a black and white picture than charcoal sticks or pencils are great. It creates a dark line and you can also blend these with your fingers and try shading.

### Paint Markers

Paint markers are permanent and have an oil paint base. You can use them on paper but they can also be used on many surfaces including: canvas, wood, ceramic, plastic, glass, etc. They tend to have a shiny finish.

### Permanent (or Sharpie) Markers

These markers can be used on paper as well as other surfaces. Unlike paint markers, they are not oil based and don't have a shiny finish.



## **Painting with...**

### **Tempera Paint**

You can paint a picture on paper with tempera paint. There are many colors to choose from and this is a fast drying medium. This paint is also called "Poster Paint." This is a good paint to use with children.

### **Watercolor Paint**

Use watercolor paper when using this paint. The tube watercolor paints are highly recommended due to the darker pigment. It makes a much nicer picture. You can also find "Liquid Watercolor" in bottles, which also has a darker pigment and is fun to squirt or spray on a picture. If you are tight on money, you can also use the school kind of watercolor paint that comes in trays.

### **Acrylic Paint**

You can paint a picture on paper or canvas with acrylic paint. You can also use it on wood surfaces. It's water-soluble and dries like a plastic. A nice paint to use with teens or adults. (Be warned that this paint is hard to get out of clothing).

### **Finger Paint and/or Shaving Cream**

Kids love the sensory aspect of painting with their fingers using finger paint or shaving cream or both at the same time! The shaving cream has a nice smell and makes for easy clean up. You can also use small toys (such as cars or animals) in the paint/shaving cream for more fun.

### **Ceramic Paint**

The art stores do sell a special kind of paint for painting on ceramic surfaces (such as a ceramic tile). In some cases you may have to bake the tile to set the paint. The paint usually has instructions on the bottle.

### **Glass Paint**

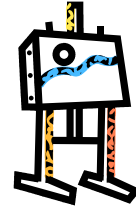
The art stores do sell a special kind of paint for painting on glass surfaces (such as a glass vase). You may have to pre-treat the glass surface before painting. The paint usually has instructions on the bottle.

### **Fabric Paint**

This is a special kind of paint that is just used on fabrics. Usually in squeeze tubes.



## Different Kinds of Paper and Canvas



### White Drawing Paper

Usually a little thicker than white computer paper and better for drawing.

### Colored Construction Paper

Always good to have on hand and comes in many colors and varieties.

### Watercolor Paper

A must if you are using watercolor paint. It's usually a white slightly textured surface and comes in different thicknesses and textures. Look for the student grade and try to buy in bulk if you want to save money.

### Finger Paint Paper

Usually a white, smooth, and sometimes shiny surface just used for finger painting.

### Tracing Paper

A transparent kind of paper used for laying on top of another image and tracing that image.

### Poster Board

Comes in white and various colors. Usually thicker than paper and comes in large sizes that can be cut down smaller if needed.

### Foam Core Board

Usually comes in white but may come in some colors. This board has a core made of foam but the surface is smooth.

### Mat Board

Comes in white and various colors. Can have a texture to it or not and is a heavier kind of board. Usually used to frame a 2D art project but can also be used as a base for a drawing, painting or collage.

### Canvas

Canvas can be bought "raw" and not on a wooden frame. If you get it this way it's usually good to "stretch" it on a wooden frame and use white "gesso" to prep it for a painting. However, the best way is to buy canvas already stretched on wooden frames and gessoed. You can find these in many different sizes.



## **Collage with...**

### **Magazines**

You can use magazines to find pictures of people, food, flowers, nature, words, cars, animals, etc.

### **Tissue Paper**

Tissue paper comes in many pretty colors and is great for layering, crumpling, folding, etc.

### **Glitter**

Glitter is messy but fun! It comes in several colors and adds a sparkle to your work! It is recommended to get the bigger bottles of glitter instead of the small ones (it lasts a lot longer).

### **Buttons**

You can find small, medium and large plastic buttons in art catalogues. They come in many colors, but you can also get wood buttons too.

### **Sequins**

Sequins come in many shapes and colors. You can find them at art stores or party stores.

### **String/Yarn**

String and yarn come in many colors and can be found at an art or fabric store.

### **Feathers**

You can find feathers at art stores and they come in different colors or in "natural" looks. You can get small or large feathers.

### **Beans/Rice**

Beans and rice can be found at your local grocery store and are good to have on hand for collages. The beans come in different colors. You can also pre-dye the rice in different colors using food color or liquid watercolor too.

### **Pom Poms**

These look like cotton balls but come in different colors and sizes at your local art store.

**Other: Shells, Beads, Torn Paper, Fabric, Found Objects, etc!**



## Clay with...

### Playdough

Playdough is great for kids. Very textural and soothing to play with. You can teach them about colors and shapes and even create stories with different things you can make. Try using cookie cutters or playdough toys for more fun. Squish, pinch and pound playdough, using fine motor skills.

### Crayola Clay (or Model Magic)

Crayola Clay air-dries hard but when soft it is flexible and isn't as messy on your hands as playdough. Adults can make little animals or beads out of this clay.

### Air-Dry Clay

Air-Dry Clay dries hard in the air and it comes in many different forms such as your typical ceramic white, grey, terra cotta, or other colors.

### Oven-Baked Clay

Oven-Baked Clay needs to be baked at a low temperature in the oven to dry. This kind of clay is also good for jewelry making, making small pinch pots etc. Sculpty Clay is a popular brand of this kind of clay.

### Eraser Clay

Eraser Clay bakes in the oven to dry. If you form it around the tip of a pencil, and put both in the oven at a low-temp, it will dry and become a cool eraser!

### Ceramic Clay

Is a kind of clay you use if you have access to a kiln and can fire it. There are many different types of this clay but most common are grey and terra cotta. When this clay is fired you can either paint it with acrylic paint or use a glaze and re-fire it.

### Modeling Clay

Modeling Clay does not harden and will stay soft even if it is exposed to air. Sometimes it has an oil base to it.



## **Sculpture with...**

### **Plaster-Strips**

Plaster strips can be purchased at an art or craft store. Dry plaster is in the gauze strips. You can wet the strips and layer them over an object such as a balloon or crumpled up newspaper. Once dry, you can paint and decorate.

### **Paper Mache**

Paper mache is basically newspaper strips dipped in a water-glue solution and then molded over something such as a balloon. Once dry, you can paint and decorate.

### **Wire or Pipe cleaners**

Using flexible wire (which can be purchased in art catalogues and come in various colors) or pipe cleaners can make interesting sculptures. Just bend them into circle shapes or any funky shape and attach them together. Make it as big or a small as you like and hang with string from the ceiling.

### **Foam Balls, Cones, Etc.**

Using foam balls or cones (that can be purchased at a craft store in the garden/flower section), attach the shapes together using toothpicks or glue. You can paint them or decorate them with fabric to create a cool abstract or realistic sculpture.

### **Soap, Potatoes, Apples, Etc.**

You can take these items and carve into them or stick things into them to make a sculpture such as: sticking pipe cleaners into a painted potato to create a creature or abstract sculpture.

### **Furniture**

Get second hand furniture and paint/decorate it to make a great functional object or turn it into an abstract sculpture all its own.

### **Found Objects**

Get any kind of found object such as a basketball, hula-hoop, broom, etc. and paint/decorate it into a sculpture.

\*Please note the following codes below for the age level the activities are appropriate for.

(C) = This activity is just good for Children.

(T) = This activity is just good for Teens.

(A) = This activity is just good for Adults.

(C/T) = This activity is good for Children and Teens.

(T/A) = This activity is good for Teens and Adults.

(C/T/A) = This activity is good for Children/Teens/Adults.

## Art Activity Ideas



### Drawing



#### Puzzle Picture

(C/T/A) - Pre-draw a simple line image on a large piece of paper or posterboard. Cut the pieces out into smaller puzzle pieces and then color in the puzzle pieces, staying in the lines. Work to put the puzzle together so you then discover what the big image is! You can tape the puzzle pieces together when done to create one big project.

#### Geometric CD Art

(C/T/A) - Take old CD's and make them into artistic creations. We'll use permanent markers to make designs on them. CD's are not biodegradable, so this is a great way to recycle and "be green." To finish off the project, you can use pretty ribbon or yarn to loop through the CD hole and hang it on the wall, from your ceiling or on a door knob.

#### Paint Marker Drawings on Painted Paper

(C/T/A) - Use tempera paint to paint various sheets of white paper in all different, abstract ways. You can just paint the paper in one color, add patterns, etc. (The teacher can pre-do this for the participants or have them do it the day/week before). Once the paper is dry, use colorful paint markers to make a design, whether it's realistic or abstract.

### Line Designs

(C/T/A) - Using a black Sharpie marker, draw lines on a piece of white paper to divide it into sections (sections can look like puzzle pieces, or different shapes).

Next, draw different line patterns or "doodles" in each section of the paper. Experiment with different types of patterns, textures and designs (lines, dots, checks, dashes, stars, etc). When finished, the entire paper should be filled with a variety of patterns. Another option could be to use colored markers for this as well, or use a different color for each pattern/section.

### Eraser Pictures Using Charcoal

(C/T/A) - Using a piece of charcoal (can be a charcoal stick or pencil) black out the entire piece of white drawing paper. Using a kneaded eraser, draw an image on the charcoal paper. Depending on how much pressure you use when erasing, you can have different shades of grey and white. For the final step, you can seal the picture with a fixative (such as aerosol hairspray or you can buy a professional spray fixative at an art store) so that the charcoal doesn't come off of the page.

### Scratch Art

(C/T/A) - This is like drawing but uses special scratch art paper (black paper that when you scratch into has color beneath the black) and a wooden or plastic tool (Both of which you can buy at an art store or catalogue). Using 'Scratch Art' paper, you will create an image of your own. By scratching off the black surface of the paper in your own design, vibrant colors will show through! You can buy scratch art tools or be creative and use a plastic knife or fork and see if that works.

### Tea Stained Picture with Drawing

(C/T/A) - Tear up black and white newspaper into various strips/shapes (avoiding highly darkened, or pictorial areas) and use Elmer's glue to glue them down to a piece of white paper (any size). Make sure all edges of the newspaper are glued down well, you can use a mixture of glue and water in a cup and use a paintbrush if you like. Pre-brew some tea and paint the tea onto the newspaper to stain it (depending on the tea strength several coats of tea may need to be applied). Let dry. Using soft pastels, draw a picture on top of your tea stained paper (can do a self-portrait, animal, landscape, etc.).

### **Figure Drawings**

(C/T/A) - Using a large roll of white paper, roll out the paper on the ground.

Taking turns, have each person lie down on the paper (can be in different positions) and trace around the person so their figure ends up on the paper. You can choose to have each person do their own figure or just do one figure and work on that figure together as a group. Next, fill in the figure with drawing, painting or doing a paper collage or paper mosaic of your choice.

### **Doodle Drawings**

(C/T/A) - Option #1: On white paper, use a black sharpie or regular marker to make an outline of an image such as a face, flower, animal, etc. Inside the image use colored pencils to doodle in the image, making different lines, dots, squiggles, etc. Option #2: Use the drawing material of your choice to doodle all over a white piece of paper. Have fun and try different designs.

### **Pastel Pictures on Black Sandpaper**

(C/T/A) - Use soft pastels or oil pastels and do a picture of your choosing on black sandpaper. The texture and color of the black sandpaper adds an interesting contrast to the bright pigments of the pastels.

### **What Tree Would You Be?**

(T/A) - If you were a tree...what tree would you be? Have the participants use the drawing materials of their choice and white paper and have them each draw the kind of tree they would want to be. It helps to give them choices of types of trees and show them pictures of trees that you can find and print off of the internet. Optional: You can incorporate collage items such as tissue paper, glitter, etc. into the trees.

### **Geometric Picture with Markers**

(T/A) - Take rulers and CD's to make a geometric pattern on paper. Using a black sharpie pen, make many lines on the paper (in any way you want) using the ruler. Then make many circles (in any way you want) using the CD, tracing around it. Next, fill in the shapes you've created with color using markers. Try to vary the colors so the same color is not touching itself. The end result will be a vibrant, eye-popping creation! (If you don't want to make your design with rulers and CD's you can use freeform squiggly lines too.)

### **Abstract Portrait Profiles**

(T/A) - First you can briefly explain what "abstract" means and talk about Pablo Picasso and show some of his artwork. Using a pencil or black sharpie marker, draw a large head (oval shape) on white paper if you just want to draw or watercolor paper if you want to paint. Next, draw a profile down the center of each head (forehead, nose, lips, chin). The instructor may have to help people with this or show an example. Then draw a profile eye, eyebrow, mouth, ear, etc. On the remaining half of the "head" draw a frontal view eye, eyebrow, mouth, ear, etc. Draw hair to each half of the head and add a neck and shoulders. When your line drawing is done, you can choose to either draw or paint the insides of your head with various colors. The more colors you use the better such as part green and part purple for the face and orange for the eyes, etc. The colors chosen should be atypical of what is real, which will help make it look more abstract. You can also do primary colors on one side of the face and secondary on the other side. It's your choice. If you are doing a drawing, you can use oil pastels or soft pastels. If you are painting, you can use watercolor, tempera or acrylic paint.

### **Blind Contour Drawings**

(T/A) - Pick a live subject to draw such as a person, fruit bowl, vase of flowers, etc. Using a black marker on white paper, try to draw the subject that you see without looking at your paper, just look at the subject. When you think you are done, look at your paper and see what you did! It's often funny what you think you are drawing versus what you see on your paper. You can be finished at this point and try it several times with different subjects, or you can continue working on the same piece by going back into the drawing with colored pencils, crayons, markers, etc. (and you can look at the drawing this time).

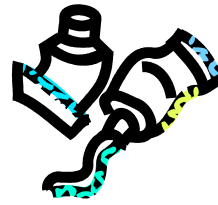
### **Drawing the Other Half of a Magazine Picture**

(T/A) - Pick a magazine picture of your choice. Cut the magazine picture in half. Tape one half of the picture to a large piece of white paper. Then, using a pencil, try to draw the other half of the magazine picture. You can choose to look at the other half to help with your drawing, or just use your imagination and draw the other half however you want. After your pencil drawing is complete, use colored crayons, pencils or markers to go back in and color it in.

# Art Activity Ideas



## Painting



### Kool Aid Art

(C/T) - Sprinkle dry Kool Aid mix onto a piece of watercolor paper. Use a spray bottle of water to squirt the Kool Aid mix on the paper. See what fun patterns happen. You can continue to add different colors of Kool Aid on top for different effects.

### Bubble Painting

(C/T) - Combine tempera paint with a little water and liquid soap in a small bowl. Stick a straw in the bowl and blow into the straw to create bubbles. Let the bubbles expand beyond the top edge of the bowl and then put a piece of white paper over the bubbles. When the paper touches the bubbles they will pop and leave a bubble design on the paper.

### Straw Painting

(C/T) - Dribble a couple dots of different colored tempera paint on a piece of white or colored paper. Use a straw to blow the paint around on the paper to see what random designs you can make. When dry, you can also go back to your piece and draw designs around the paint designs.

### Condensed Milk Painting

(C/T) - Using cans of condensed milk in combination with food coloring you will create a unique and sweet smelling paint. Come up with a theme before starting, one fun suggestion is "down on the farm" or "create your own Chicago cow". First pour the condensed milk into small bowls, add different colors of food coloring to each bowl and stir until completely mixed. Use regular paint brushes to apply the paint to either a canvas or white, heavy weight drawing paper.

### **Roller Paintings**

(C/T/A) - Use sponge rollers that have different patterns on them. Dip them in different colors of paint and roll them over a piece of white paper, posterboard or canvas. Have fun experimenting with the different textures you can make with the rollers. The final piece should be filled with color and multiple patterns!

### **Decorating a T-Shirt**

(C/T/A) - Use colorful fabric paint to decorate a t-shirt any way you want. You can also try screen printing your shirt (some art stores have portable screen printing and directions are sometimes included with the device).

### **"Mistake" Paintings**

(C/T/A) - Mistakes happen to everyone right? Well, in art you can take a mistake and make it into something fantastic! Use watercolor or tempera paint to make "mistakes" on paper and then use your imagination to turn it into something great. It can be abstract or realistic.

### **Food Paintings**

(C/T/A) - Think apples, watermelon, pizza, cookies...any food you like! Use food as an inspiration to make a painting. Use tempera on white, heavy weight paper or board or acrylic paint on canvas. Hint: It's helpful to have magazine pictures of food or clip art images of food to look at to get inspired. (For other projects, you can think of other themes to have people paint such as: flowers, animals, self-portraits, nature, robots, dinosaurs, bugs, etc.)

### **Tile Painting**

(C/T/A) - Get some white tiles from a tile store (they will often donate them to you) and use ceramic paints to decorate the tiles however you wish. Your final piece can be displayed on a little stand or hot glue a ribbon to the back of it and hang.

### **Beach Painting (With Optional Collage)**

(C/T/A) - Using a white canvas, paper or posterboard, paint a picture of the beach using tempera or acrylic paints. Optional: Incorporate shells and sand onto the picture when the paint is wet or use Elmer's glue. Some bigger shells may need to be adhered with hot glue. Glitter can also be used to make a "shiny sun."

### Mural Making

(C/T/A) - Take a large stretched canvas or large roll of white paper and put it on a table. Have the group sit or stand in front of the table and paint a scene, having each person take turns or work on it together. Decide on a theme (such as nature, animals, etc.). A great activity to encourage teamwork, decision-making and collaboration.

### Pumpkin Painting

(C/T/A) - Prepare for Halloween or fall by decorating pumpkins. Use tempera or acrylic paint to make them look fancy or scary...it's your choice! Optional: Use collage items such as pom poms, pipe cleaners, glitter, etc. to enhance your creation.

### Pinecone Holiday Ornaments

(C/T/A) - Get ready for December and make some beautiful holiday ornaments! You can dip pinecones in glue and/or tempera paint and then sprinkle glitter on them to make them sparkle. Tie a string to the top, loop it around and you've got a great ornament to hang on your tree.

### Monochromatic Paintings

(C/T/A) - In painting, color can be used to describe emotions, feelings and ideas. Select a color that is meaningful to you can paint a monochromatic theme using that color. You can paint this on paper or canvas.

### Hot Glue Watercolor Project

(T/A) - May require hand over hand. Using a large watercolor paper, randomly apply hot glue to the paper in a squiggle pattern and allow it to cool. Once the glue dries, use watercolor paints to paint the entire paper. Option #1: When the paint dries, carefully peel off the glue to reveal the white paper underneath. An extra step would be to outline the edges of where the glue was with black permanent marker. Option #2: If you have trouble peeling off the hot glue, you can choose to leave it on for a 3D effect.

### O'Keeffe Inspired Flower Picture

(T/A) - First you can briefly explain the artist Georgia O'Keeffe and show examples of her flower paintings. Using any white canvas, paper, or board as your base, draw a large, close up picture of a flower, using the entire space. Next you can draw or paint your image with any colors you choose. Crayons, oil pastels, soft pastels, watercolor, tempera or acrylic paint can be used.

### **Abstract Watercolor Weavings**

(T/A) - Fold a piece of watercolor paper into four  $2\frac{1}{4}$  x 12 strips. Fill each section of the folded paper with a different watercolor color/technique (some techniques could be: wet paint on wet paper, crayon resist, splatter, scratch resist, wet on wet with salt, dry brush, etc.). When the watercolor has dried, cut the paper into 1" x 12" strips. Option #1: You can weave the watercolor strips together to create your piece. Option #2: You can also cut black or colored construction paper into 1" x 12" strips and weave those together with the watercolor strips, alternating a construction paper piece with a watercolor piece. Mount the finished work on a piece of nice paper or mat board.

### **Mexican Bark Painting...Tree of Life**

(T/A) - First you can briefly explain the Mexican culture and show examples of Amate Bark Paintings created in Mexico. (Amate is paper made from the inner barks of trees). Also explain the concept of "Tree of Life" which is used in many cultures to represent infinity, astrology, immortality, etc. Use brown Kraft Paper or grocery bags crumpled and pre-stained with watery brown tempera paint as your base to paint on. With a pencil, draw a "tree of life" (see examples you can find on the internet). Your tree can be curvy and fanciful with birds, flowers, butterflies or animals on the tree. Trace the pencil lines with a black paint pen and then use colored paint pens, oil pastels, or tempera paint to fill in the solid areas with various colors. Use bright, even fluorescent colors for an authentic look. The last step can be adding small black or white lines and dots to the image to accentuate the lively movements of the tree and animal life.

### **Aboriginal Picture**

(T/A) - First you can briefly explain the history of the Aborigine culture in Australia and show examples of aboriginal artwork (dot or sand paintings that often depict "dreaming" or "creation" stories and have animal images in them). Using canvas, paper, old ceiling tiles, boards, or any kind of base you choose, use one color (of your choice - but not black) of acrylic paint to paint the whole piece and let dry. Next, draw your image (can be an Aborigine animal, plant shapes, water, etc.) with pencil or permanent marker. Paint your image using black acrylic paint (so it's like a silhouette) and let dry. Then, using various bright colors of paint markers or acrylic paint and brushes, decorate your black images using concentric patterns of dots and lines.

### Koi Fish Picture

(T/A) - First you can briefly explain the history of the koi fish and its importance in Asia. You can also show examples of Asian artwork and images of koi. Using a pencil, draw an image of a koi on watercolor paper (if this is too hard for some people to draw you can find a picture of a koi online on your computer and then either trace it onto watercolor paper (using graphite paper) or print the image out and then photocopy it onto watercolor paper). Next, outline the pencil line drawing with black glue and let dry. Then, use warm colors (red, orange, yellow) in watercolor paint to shade from red to orange to yellow from the head of the koi fish to the tail. You can leave your picture like that or do this next option: When dry, use scissors to cut the koi out. On another piece of watercolor paper use cool colors (blue, purple, green) in watercolor paint to paint the whole paper, shading from blue to purple to green. This is the "water" for the koi. Then, glue the koi fish onto the cool colored paper.

### Cave Paintings

(T/A) - First you can briefly explain about cave paintings and the history behind them. Show examples from the internet if possible. Option #1: Use a crumpled up brown grocery bag as your base. Using watercolor or tempera paints, paint on a "cave-like" image of an animal, stick-figure person, etc. Option #2: Use Celluclay (can find in an art store) according to the package directions and when mixing can add a bit of brown or black tempera paint to it to make it look like stone. Use the mixed Celluclay and with your hands, press out a flat surface (the size of a sheet of paper). You can do this on a piece of poster board so it can be transferred when done. Let the Celluclay air dry and then use watercolors or tempera paint to paint on your "cave-like" images. Let dry and display.

### Pointillism

(T/A) - This is a great way to introduce the technique of pointillism. Pointillism is the painting technique of using multiple small dots in combination to create a larger image. Choose a theme such as: landscapes, self portraits or animals and draw out the image using a pencil on a pre-stretched canvas. Using Q-Tips or the pointy end of a paintbrush, apply acrylic paint in closely placed together dots to achieve the pointillism effect. The closer the dots are placed together the more solid the image will appear in the end. Hint: It may be helpful to show examples of pointillism work before you start the project.

### **Mark Rothko Paintings**

(T/A) - Look at examples of Mark Rothko's paintings through the internet and read a bit about this famous artist. He was considered an "Abstract Expressionist" and his style was about primitive art or childlike art that dealt with fields of color. Do a painting on canvas using his technique of color block painting. Use acrylic paints and choose 4-5 colors to use. Make a block of each color on your canvas in different widths. You can also blend the edges of the blocks to add a softer effect. Again, look at Rothko's paintings for inspiration.

### **Vincent Van Gogh**

(T/A) - Look at various examples of Vincent Van Gogh's work on the internet and read a bit about this famous artist. He was a "Post-Impressionist" and used lots of colors in his later, more famous works. Some of his works are of self-portraits or sunflowers. His "Starry Night" painting is a great one to reference. Pick one of his paintings as an inspiration and look at it while you paint a picture on canvas using acrylic paint.

### **Foot Paintings**

(T/A) - Take your shoes and socks off and place your feet on a piece of posterboard that is laying on the ground. Use a pencil or markers to draw around your feet. Then, place your feet in a different direction and trace them again. Continue to repeat this process until you are satisfied with your foot design. Next, Use tempera paint to paint your feet outlines in different colors. You can also paint the area outside of the feet a color too. This same concept can also be used with your hands.

### **Painted Locket**

(T/A) - Over the centuries and across many cultures, lockets have been worn as tiny, portable treasure chests. Paint the front of a mini canvas however you like. You can also paint the back of the canvas if you like. Next, use the back to display a small photo or something with meaning. Use hot glue to adhere the image or object to the canvas. When the canvas is dry, you can hot glue ribbon or string to the canvas so that you can wear it around your neck or hang it up.

# Art Activity Ideas



## Collage



### Caterpillar Fruit Loop Picture

(C) - Make a collage picture using circular Fruit Loops! Draw a caterpillar using circle shapes, using the same colors as the different fruit loop colors. Glue the red ones in a red circle, the green ones in the green circle etc. Great fun for kids and they learn their shapes and colors too.

### Fun with Foam Sheets & Shapes

(C) - Foam sheets and shapes are always in the craft stores and kids love them. You can use basic shapes to make a train, car or house using foam squares, rectangles and circles. You can also use them to make flowers, insects, etc. After arranging your shapes, glue them on a piece of paper.

### Fall Colors - Pastel Drawings & Paper Collage

(C/T/A) - Use soft pastels and paper collage on white paper to make a beautiful piece. Think leaves of red, yellow, and orange. Use the pastels to just add color to the page or to draw real leaves. Use the colored paper or magazine images to collage onto the piece too.

### Make your own Holiday Cards or Pictures

(C/T/A) - Cut colored paper into basic shapes and layer them to make some unique holiday cards. Think triangle Christmas tree or round pumpkin. Use glitter, markers, ribbon, felt etc to make them extra special.

### Make Your Own Bookmark

(C/T/A) - Cut bookmark shapes out of paper and draw or collage on it (use markers, oil pastels, cut out construction paper, magazine pictures etc.). Then, have an adult/staff send them through the lamination machine and cut to size. Punch a hole on the top and put some colorful string or ribbon on it.

### **Create a Window Hanging**

(C/T/A) - Use colored tissue paper, dried flowers, leaves, etc. and put them on a piece of sticky, clear, contact paper. Lay another piece of contact paper on top to seal it and cut the outside into any shape you want (circle, square, free form shape etc.). Punch a hole in the top and put some string or ribbon through the hole. Hang it in your window.

### **Thanksgiving Art: Making an Autumn Placemat**

(C/T/A) - Draw a thanksgiving image (turkey, leaves, etc.) onto a piece of colored construction paper. You could also collage magazine images too. Then, take your finished piece and laminate it to make a placemat. The thicker the lamination the better. Another option is to use contact paper instead of laminating.

### **Decorating a Visor Hat (or regular ball cap)**

(C/T/A) - Pre-buy fabric visor hats or regular baseball hats to decorate. Use fabric paint, sequins and buttons. If you are doing this for 4th of July, use red, white and blue. If it's another occasion or holiday, use colors that go with that.

### **Decorating a Wooden Frame or Mirror**

(C/T/A) - Each person will get a wooden frame or mirror that has a wide wooden area (Ikea has cheap ones or look at your local craft stores). Use acrylic paint to decorate it and then embellish the frame/mirror by gluing beads, sequins and glitter on it.

### **Acrylic Shingle Collage**

(T/A) - Pour acrylic paint in different colors on to parchment paper to dry for 3 days. The paint will dry like a plastic. Then, peel the dried paint off of the paper and cut it into small squares. Glue the squares on to heavy paper to make a beautiful collage or mosaic-like picture.

### **Magazine Paper Weavings**

(T/A) - Find two opposite images (can be opposite subject matter, opposite colors, etc.) of similar size in a magazine. Tear out the magazine pages and then cut the magazine images into equal strips using scissors. Lay the first images strips out on a piece of white or colored paper so that the strips are laying vertically with a little space in between each strip. Using scotch tape, tape the strips at the top only to keep the strips secure while you weave. Next step is to take the strips of the other image, and one by one weave them in and out of the other strips on the page. When complete with weaving all of the strips, secure all of the remaining ends with scotch tape.

### **Fabric Collage**

(T/A) - Choose a theme for your picture; some ideas include wild animals, under the sea, or city skyline. Find corresponding fabrics for your theme, the more textures and patterns you use the more interesting the final piece will be. You can use stencils to trace images onto the fabric prior to cutting them out. Pick one fabric piece to be the backing the all other pieces will be attached to. After all the pieces are cut out arrange them onto the backing fabric piece. Use iron-on adhesive to stick the pieces onto the backing. This will require supervision using a hot iron. Allow the piece to cool and hang!

### **Self Portrait Fabric Collage**

(T/A) - Cut fabric into shapes of the body (circle for head, triangle or square for the body, etc.) and glue them together on posterboard to make your human figure. Then use beads, buttons and sequins for the facial features and details on the clothes.

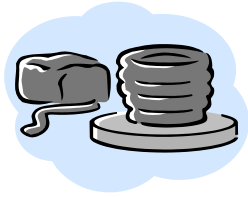
### **Torn Paper Collage**

(T/A) - Find a picture in a magazine. Decide the subject before hand, either scenery, food, or people. Tear out the image. Use construction paper to match the colors in the image from the magazine. Tear the construction paper into small pieces and place into individual piles. Use the torn construction paper pieces to construct a copy of the magazine image. Use Modge Podge to adhere the pieces to a plain piece of white paper. When completed, cover the entire piece with a thin layer of Modge Podge to seal the piece and protect it from fading.

### **Word Collage**

(T/A) - Get magazines and old books and look through them to pick out words that you like or go with a theme you want to do. Cut or rip the words out and get a collection going. Next, use watered down glue or modge podge to collage the words together on a piece of paper, posterboard, or canvas. You can have the words join to make sentences you create, or have them free floating. You can use words that communicate a certain feeling, idea, or subject matter. It's up to you. After you collage your words you can leave it as is or add watered down paint to the top to "stain it."

# Art Activity Ideas



## Clay



### Clay Beads for Necklaces

(C/T/A) - Everyone loves colorful clay! Use Crayola clay that air-dries hard to make beads. Just roll little pieces of the clay into "snakes" and then attach the ends to make a doughnut shape. Let dry and then string the beads with lanyard or string...you've got a nifty necklace! You can also roll the clay into small ball shapes and then poke a hole into it using the end of a paintbrush.

### Clay Wall Hanging

(C/T/A) - Use terra cotta, air drying clay to roll out a slab. Then, using clay tools or just a simple pencil, decorate into the clay slab. You can also add to the slab if you make clay balls or coils. Put a hole at the top of the piece when done. Let dry. When dry, you can hang it up with ribbon.

### Clay Animals

(C/T/A) - Using air dry clay (can be gray, red, white or colored clay) need the clay until soft and malleable. You can use basic shapes such as: balls, coils, slabs to make various animals. Just join the shapes together to make whatever you like and let dry. Later, you can glaze or paint your bowl any color you like. (You can do themes like desert animals, zoo animals, farm animals, bugs, etc.).

### Clay Rattles or Shakers

(C/T/A) - Use air dry clay for this project. Pre-make some very small balls with the clay and let dry (can use 4-8 balls per rattle). Next, make two pinch pots of a similar size with your fingers. Join the two pinch pots together by scoring (scratching) the edges and using slip (watered down clay) to join them together. Make sure to smooth it out with your fingers to make one ball. (You can also use a scrunched up newspaper ball as a form to help you make your two half's of the ball...just form the clay around the newspaper). Next, use a pencil, or paintbrush to make a hole in the ball. You can also use a toothpick to draw a design on the outside of your clay ball. Let dry. Then, drop the small, dry balls of clay into the hole (make sure the hole is made big enough for the small balls to fit). Take some new clay to seal up the hole and let dry. You now have a rattle that can make noise! Lastly, paint the clay with acrylic paint and decorate as you wish.

### Clay Pins

(C/T/A) - Using colored Sculpty clay create a small ball of clay and then flatten with your hand/fingers. Should be the size you want for your pin. This is your "base." Next, use any colors of clay you want to add on to your base to make a design. You can make clay "snakes" and balls and dots, etc. to put on your "base."

You can make it abstract (just design and color) or make it realistic (such as making a flower, making a letter or initial, etc.). Make sure the clay is securely pressed or joined together and then follow the baking instructions on the Sculpty Clay package (usually has to be baked in an oven on a low temperature).

When baked, hot glue a pin on the back of the piece and then use as a decorative pin on your clothing, coat, canvas bag, etc. Option #2: You can also take a pre-made, circular pin and adhere the clay to that and then bake. Option #2: You can also use air dry clay and then paint it with acrylic paint when dry, then attach the pin backing.

### Clay Pinch Pot

(C/T/A) - Using air dry clay (can be gray, red, white or colored clay) need the clay until soft and malleable. Roll the clay into a tennis ball size piece. Press your thumb down into the center of the ball and then using two fingers press the clay up and out to form the center of the bowl. Don't pinch too hard, you might tear the clay. Once you get the bowl into the desired shape you can use toothpicks to draw on the outside of the bowl. Allow to air dry. Later, you can glaze or paint your bowl any color you like.

### Coil Bowl

(C/T/A) - Using air dry clay (can be gray, red, white or colored clay) need the clay until soft and malleable. Make a small to medium size ball with the clay and then press flat to make your "base." Take some more clay and make "snakes" or coils with the clay. Wrap your "snakes" or coils around the base and keep wrapping it up so that you are making the sides of your bowl. Stop when you feel like it is big enough and let dry. Later, you can glaze or paint your bowl any color you like.

### Clay Mobile

(T/A) - Use air dry clay or ceramic clay you can fire. Take some of the clay and form it into a medium size disc. You can use a roller to help flatten it a bit, but you want it to be at least a  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch thick. Next, poke some holes into the disc. This will be your base where you will use string to loop through the holes and hang other ceramic pieces you can make out of the clay (such as stars). Make those other pieces. Let everything dry and paint/glaze if so desired. String together and hang.

# Art Activity Ideas



## Sculpture



### Ocean in a Bottle or Sensory Bottles

(C) - Make an ocean in a bottle! Take water bottles and use liquid watercolor or food color to make the water blue. Then, drop foam fish, glitter and other items in it to make your own ocean. You can also use other colors, glitter, beads etc. to make a sensory bottle. Kids love to shake these and see what's inside (just like a snow globe).

### Animal Mask

(C) - Make your own animal mask! Use paper plates and collage items to make a mask of your favorite animal. Tape on a paint or popsicle stick on the bottom of the mask and they can hold it up to their face when they're done. Ask them to make the sound their animal makes while they use the mask.

### Rock Animals or Creatures

(C/T) - Find some small or medium sized rocks and then paint them to look like animals or creatures. Use them as a paperweight, doorstop, or book holder.

### Foil & Tape Sculpture

(C/T/A) - Choose a subject matter prior to beginning; a popular example is making your own action figure. You can also do abstract sculpture pieces to make it more interesting. Use pieces of aluminum foil approximately 12x12. Tear several sheets to get started. If making a human figure you will need 4 to 5 pieces for the torso and one piece for each limb. The head is made by crinkling one piece into a tight ball. Start with making the head then make the body then finally the limbs. Pieces can be secured to one another by crinkling them together. Use pieces of masking tape to help secure the different pieces while you are working. Once all the pieces are attached, wrap the entire piece in masking tape so no foil is showing. Cover the figure with a thin layer of Modge Podge and allow to dry. Once Modge Podge is dry you can use acrylic paint to decorate you figure. Make sure to give it a name and a background story, it is your own action figure!

### Making a Candy Box for Valentine's Day

(C/T/A) - This is a great project for Valentine's Day but can also be used for a Mother's Day gift or a birthday gift. Use tempera or acrylic paint and decorate a pre-bought wooden or cardboard box. You can chose to embellish it with sequins, glitter and buttons if you so chose. When dry, line the box with tissue paper and put some candy in it. You will have made a very special gift!

### Plaster Creations

(C/T/A) - Use plaster strips to cover a blown up balloon, but make sure to leave a hole at the bottom. (They plaster strips can be bought in bulk in rolls and then you can cut them). Make sure to dunk the plaster strips in a cup of water and then smooth them over the balloon, making sure to criss-cross as you go and do at least 3 layers. Once dry, pop the balloon with scissors and take it out of the now hardened, plaster sculpture. Use acrylic paint to put a face on it, make it into a basketball, make it into a monster, etc. Be creative and have fun. Once the paint dries, you can also glue collage items on it such as sequins, buttons, feathers, etc.

### 3D Mod Podge Head Collage

(C/T/A) - Pre-buy some Styrofoam heads out of an art catalogue and give each person their own "head." Have each person use magazines and mod podge glue to collage images, words etc. that represent themselves onto their Styrofoam head. Make sure to do a final coat of mod podge on the piece to seal the collage together and give it a shiny, finished appearance.

### Making "Bat-o'-Lanterns"

(C/T/A) - Take miniature pumpkins and turn them into bats using black paint and craft foam. Paint the pumpkin black and let dry. Cut black craft foam into wing shapes and hot glue onto the pumpkin. You can also use googly eyes or buttons for eyes. A great decoration for Halloween!

### Spring or Fall Flower Pots

(C/T/A) - Pre-buy some small flower pots. Put fall, silk flowers in the pot (or you can plant real seeds or use real flowers). Paint the outside of the flower pot using acrylic paint or you can decorate it with paint markers. Makes a great gift.

### Decorating Shoes

(C/T/A) - Use fabric paint or fabric dyes, sequins, glitter, beads etc. to decorate canvas shoes/sneakers. You can also replace the laces with pretty ribbon.

### Make a Belt or Scarf

(C/T/A) - Use fabric paint or fabric dyes to decorate a belt or scarf. You can also embellish them with sequins, buttons, etc.

### Felt Boxes

(C/T/A) - Take an ordinary box (wood or cardboard) and make it into an extraordinary art piece! Glue colorful felt on it and embellish it with felt flowers, stripes or whatever creative design you can think of. It helps to cut felt pieces the same size as the sides of the box first, glue them down, then add the details after that. When dry, you can use it to hold your jewelry or keepsakes.

### Butterfly or Shape Mobile

(C/T/A) - Use colorful tissue paper, pipe cleaners, foam shapes and more to make some butterflies, bugs, shapes or anything else you want in your mobile. Take already broken off sticks or branches that you can find outside from a tree. Break them down into 2 sticks per person. Wrap the sticks with colorful yarn, trying to cover the entire length of both sticks. Use the yarn to also tie your sticks together in a cross pattern. Then, hang your mobile pieces on the sticks using the yarn. Hang your pieces at various lengths on different parts of the sticks, trying to balance all of the items. Tie a piece of yarn to the middle of the stick cross and make a loop at the top so you can hang your mobile from the ceiling. The mobile should move nicely when hung.

### Tissue Paper Flowers

(C/T/A) - Use colorful tissue paper to make flowers that you can put in your hair or make a bouquet. Cut the tissue paper into squares and put 3 or more squares together in a stack. Poke the pipe cleaner through the middle of the stack and twist the end that is poked through in a loop so the tissue paper can't fall off. Crumple and fluff the tissue paper to look like flowers. If making a bouquet, make several flowers and then tie a pretty ribbon around the stems.

### **Shrinking Mandalas**

(C/T/A) - First, find several mandala images on the computer by googling "mandala" (a mandala is usually a circular image). Print out the images you choose.

Tape a piece of shrink film (can find at any craft store) to the mandala image you have chosen. Use permanent sharpie markers to trace/color the pattern of the mandala onto the shrink film. Once done, cut out the picture (circular mandala), punch a hole at the top, and follow the baking instructions on the shrink film package. Watch the magic happen as it shrinks into a smaller, hard, plastic form. Once done, tie a piece of ribbon at the top to hang. Makes a good window decoration or ornament.

### **Make a Mosaic Box, Picture Frame Etc.**

(T/A) - Make a beautiful and functional art piece using tile. You can tile a box, coaster, picture frame, plant pot or stool. Use tile glue or a hot glue gun to glue the tiles into place. The piece can be finished then but you can also do this next step. If you have the time and materials, you can grout the area in between the tiles. Let dry for a little bit and then wipe the excess off of the top to reveal the tiles below. Let dry and you're finished.

### **Mask Making**

(T/A) - Have you ever made a mask of your own face before? Try it! First, break up into partners and take turns helping each other put Vaseline on each other's faces. This is a necessary step. Next, take turns again and wet pre-cut pieces of plaster strips (can use a cup or bowl filled with water) and smooth them over each other's faces. Make sure to just do those areas that have Vaseline on them.

Put at least 3 layers of plaster strips on. The plaster dries pretty quickly and you will feel when it starts to harden. When you take it off, you'll be looking at yourself! When it's dry (the next day or week), you can paint it however you like, and even glue feathers, glitter and beads on it. (If you aren't comfortable making a mask of your face, you can make a mold of your hand using the same technique).

### **Faces or Mexican Maracas**

(T/A) - Blow up a balloon and put plaster strips (or newspaper dipped in a water-glue solution) on top of the balloon. Cover it with 2-3 layers. Let dry and then paint it like a face. For the maraca, put beans in the balloon and then blow it up.

Tape the balloon to an empty paper towel or toilet paper roll, making sure that the roll has tape on both ends (so the beans stay in the upper part of the balloon). Cover the whole thing with plaster strips and let dry. When the plaster dries it shrinks and the balloon will pop. The beans will make a noise in the plaster when shaken. Paint and decorate.

### Wire Scribble Sculpture

(T/A) - With a pencil or marker, draw a squiggly line drawing on white paper. Using any kind of flexible wire (can be silver or colored) and bend the wire to the squiggle and then you have an abstract wire sculpture. You can hang it or use extra wire mold a base to display the wire squiggle sculpture in an upright position.

### Line Designs into Sculpture

(T/A) - See directions for doing Line Designs (in Drawing Section). When that's done, the teacher can pre-prepare this next step: Photocopy your line design piece several times so you have copies of your original drawing. If you drew on a typical 8 ½" x 11" piece of paper they should come out this size. Using a paper cutter, cut away the outside edge of each photocopy so the paper is 8" x 10". Next, cut that sheet into 4" x 10" strips and cut those into 2" rectangles. The participants can do this part: Tightly roll one of the rectangles around a pencil and use a small amount of Elmer's glue to hold the rectangle in place to create a 4" long tube. (It helps to count to 10 while holding the glued tube in place). Repeat this step and make many tubes. Next, start by gluing two tubes together near the tops of the tubes to form a slight "X" shape. Glue one more tube onto the "X" to create a tripod base. Let the three base tubes dry a few minutes for added stability. Then, add tubes, one by one, gluing as you go, to create a beautiful sculpture. You can add them in any way, criss-crossing them up so it's three-dimensional.

### Flexible Glass Structure

(A) - Using a squeezable 'arti'stick' and 'twisteez' wire (which you can buy from an art catalogue), you will be creating a flexible form. First you shape the wire. Then, squeeze the liquid within the wire shape. Let it dry for a few days. Then, shape it! Its appearance will be similar to stained or blown glass! Great for making flowers or abstract structures.

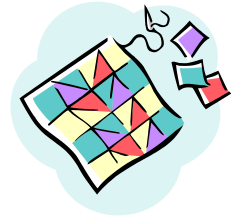
### Making a Doll

(A) - Use raw canvas (size 12" x 16") and fold it in half. Using a pencil, draw a simple outline of a doll/person. Cut the outline out so that you end up with two. Place some pillow fill in the middle of the two pieces. Hot glue the edges of the doll together, so that the fill stays in the middle to make a "soft doll." Next, paint your doll with acrylic paint. Hot glue yarn for hair and other collage items to make it look special (can use fabric, buttons, etc.).

# Art Activity Ideas



## Fabric/Fiber Art



### Painting a Bandana

(C/T/A) - Each person will get a white bandana. Use fabric dyes and a paintbrush to make a colorful pattern on your bandana. When it dries, you will be able to wear it and show it off to your friends!

### Tie Dye a T-Shirt

(C/T/A) - Take a pre-washed, cotton, white t-shirt and tie rubber bands all over it, however you want. Dip the t-shirt into a tub of fabric dye...you can have several tubs with various colors. Have the participants take the shirts home in large plastic bags. Instruct them to take them out when they get home and find a place to let them dry for a day or two. Once dry, take the rubber bands off and see the tie-dye shirt. You will then have to wash the shirt in cold water a few times to get any excess dye out of the shirt. Once dry, wear and enjoy!

### Fabric/Yarn Picture

(C/T/A) - First you will do a simple line drawing with markers. Then you will pick out colorful scraps of fabric and yarn and cut them to fit into the various shapes in your drawing. The end result will be a colorful, textural masterpiece!

### Felt Weaving

(T/A) - Using thin felt strips and glue, you will produce a felt design or scene by weaving. To finish it off, you can attach a dowel so it can hang on your wall! To start, pre-cut slits, in a parallel manner, into a black piece of felt, making sure not to cut the edges. Weave the colored strips back and forth through the slits to make the design, alternating as you go. If necessary you can cut the excess strips that might be hanging out and/or use Elmer's glue to secure the ends to the piece.

### **Make a Fleece Scarf**

(T/A) - This is a good project for fall or winter. Pre-cut out some long, scarf size strips out of fleece fabric. It's helpful to do this with a cutting wheel on a large cutting mat that you can get at a fabric store. If you can't get that, using scissors is fine. Next, using fabric glue, decorate the ends of the fleece by gluing on cut out shapes from felt of different colors. You can put the shapes together to make flowers, initials, etc. If you use fabric glue, you should be able to wash the garment when dry.

### **Make a Fleece Pillow**

(T/A) - Make a fleece pillow to cozy up with! No sewing required...just some creativity! Cut fleece fabric into two equal rectangles and place them on top of each other. Hot glue the edges together leaving a 3-5 inch part that is not hot glued. Stick your hand in the part that is not glued and flip the pillow inside out so the edges are in the inside. Stuff with batting and hot glue the final opening. To jazz it up you can also hot glue fabric shapes or buttons onto the top of the pillow to decorate it.

### **Dry Felting**

(T/A) - Pick one square of any color wool felt as your background piece. Choose two to three different colors of roving (a wool yarn). Place your piece of felt over any thick, flat Styrofoam block (can be found in the garden craft section of an art store). Arrange the colored roving you have chosen in a desired pattern on your felt square. Use a felting needle to poke the roving into your felt square so that the roving presses into the Styrofoam block. Continue to do this until all of your roving is secure in the Styrofoam and then display as your art piece.

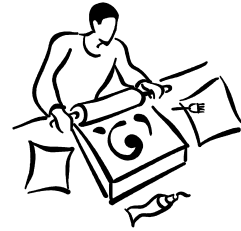
### **Batiking**

(A) - Use melted candle wax or beeswax to decorate a piece of fabric (works with cotton, and most other fabric types). There are a couple ways you can use the wax: 1. You can use a lit candle and drip the wax on the fabric. 2. You can put wax in a tin coffee can or aluminum bowl and place that in an electric hot plate that has a little water in the bottom of the hot plate. Place it on a low setting and the wax should melt in the can. Use a paintbrush to dip it in the wax and apply the wax to the fabric. After the wax is on the fabric, color the fabric with fabric dyes using a paintbrush. Next, place a paper towel or regular towel over the fabric and iron it on a low setting. You may have to do this several times to get rid of the wax on the fabric. The towel will absorb the wax and you'll see the white pattern or design that is left from where the wax was.

# Art Activity Ideas



## Printmaking



### Printmaking with Potatoes

(C/T) - Get several potatoes and cut them in half. Have the participants carve a design or image into the potato half that is cut. When done, dip the potato in paint and then press the potato on a piece of paper. You may have to experiment and try printing several times to get the affect you want. The image you cut out in the potato should be seen in the paint image on paper.

### Printmaking with Meat Trays

(C/T/A) - Take a Styrofoam meet tray and draw a design into the back of the meat tray with a pen or pencil. You can also use cookie cutters and press them into the tray. After their design is finished, use a brush or small paint roller to put paint on the tray. Place a piece of paper on the tray where you put the paint on and rub with your fingers. Take the paper off and you'll see the design.

### Stamping and Making Cards or Stationary

(C/T/A) - Use various stamps, with stamp ink pads, to decorate a piece of paper. Make it into a card or stationary. It's helpful to have a theme for your card such as Christmas, Birthday, Halloween, Spring, etc. and use the stamps that go with that theme.

### Printmaking: Monoprints with Paper Shapes

(C/T/A) - Start with corrugated board (board with ripples on it) for your base. Take a manila file folder and cut shapes out of that (4-5 shapes of any kind). Glue the shapes to the board (on one side of it) in a desired pattern. Cover the entire piece with a layer of modge podge (glue). Once the piece is dry, cover it with a thin coat of acrylic paint (any color) and then turn it over to "print" onto a piece of white paper. Can then wipe off the excess paint and reapply another color (or the same color) to make another print on another piece of white paper. Use as often as you like.

### **Leaf Prints and Contour Drawing**

(C/T/A) - Buy leaf stamps of any size at a craft store (the foam ones are cheaper), or make your own leaf stamps by cutting leaf shapes out of thick foam sheets (in the foam craft section of the art store). Use tempera or acrylic paint to paint your stamp and then print the image on a white sheet of paper. You can print it once or multiple times using different colors of paint (fall colors look best such as red, yellow, orange and green). Then, using markers (can use multiple colors or just one color) outline the shape of each leaf print on the paper, leaving space in between the line and the leaf print. Repeat the outlines again and again so the lines give the effect that the leaf is rippling in a pond. These are contour lines. You are finished when the whole paper is filled with leaf prints and contour lines.

### **Making Your Own Stamps Out of Sponges**

(C/T/A) - Buy some inexpensive sponges. Using scissors cut the sponges however you like. You can cut them into basic shapes, animals, people, etc. Once you have the shapes you like, dip the sponges into paint on a paper plate and then print them on a piece of paper (white or colored). Have fun experimenting with your new stamps and making printed designs.

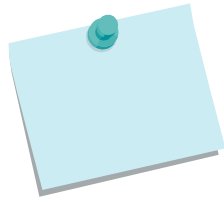
### **Printing with Found Objects**

(C/T/A) - Printing with found objects is fun! Find things at your local dollar or party store such as (koosh balls, little toy animals or cars, etc.). Experiment with dipping them into paint on a paper plate and then printing with them on white or colored paper. It's fun to run the cars over the paper to see what paint tracks they can leave. You can make "animal tracks" with the animals, and the koosh balls make a neat pattern. Use different colors and cover the whole paper with prints of all different kinds!

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# Art Activity Ideas



## Papermaking



### Marbleized Paper Using Pastels

(C/T/A) - Put sticks of soft pastels in plastic baggies, making sure the colors are separated into different bags. Use a hammer to lightly pound the pastels into pieces so you end up with a fine powder in each bag. Use your fingers to pinch the powder and sprinkle it onto the surface of a rectangular cake pan, bin or tub filled with water. Sprinkle at least three colors. If you want, you can use a pencil or paintbrush to gently swirl the water. Place a sheet of watercolor paper (can be pre-cut to fit the bin you're using) on top of the water/powder and then quickly and carefully take it off. What you will get is gorgeous marbleized paper!

### Marbleized Paper Using Acrylic Paint

(C/T/A) - Acrylic paint, water, and paste will be combined in a tub. A marbleized effect occurs. At that point, paper will be placed on top of the mixture and then carefully peeled off. What you will get is gorgeous marbleized paper!

### Papermaking with Paper Pulp

(C/T/A) - Take recycled paper of any color and tear it up. Put it in a blender about half full with some water and blend until you have some "paper pulp." Put the paper pulp in a large bin of water and stir. Repeat this pulp making process about 3 times, putting all the pulp in the water. Use a wire screen (can buy at an art store) to slowly dip into the water at an angle and then raise up to catch the pulp on the top screen. When you have a result you like, put a piece of felt (the same size as the screen/paper) over the screen. Slowly flip it around and place on a table. Squeeze out the excess water of the pulp/paper using a sponge and put the water from the sponge into the bin. When that's done, slowly lift the screen off of the felt and the pulp/paper should lay on the felt. Repeat this whole process to make multiple sheets of paper, putting the paper in between the felt sheets. You can use a cookie sheet to press the whole stack when finished and then separate the sheets and let dry.



## References and Websites

- Ideas from Dana Stewart, [danas@wdsra.com](mailto:danas@wdsra.com)
- Ideas from Maggie Krohn, [mkrohn@nedsra.org](mailto:mkrohn@nedsra.org)
- Ideas from Amber Shaner
- Nasco Artworks website, [www.eNasco.com/artsandcrafts](http://www.eNasco.com/artsandcrafts)
- <http://www.pioneerthinking.com/makingpaper.html>
- Book: Design for Accessibility: A Cultural Administrator's Handbook
- Dick Blick Art Materials, <http://www.dickblick.com/lessonplans/>
- <http://www.kaboose.com/>
- <http://www.enchantedlearning.com/Home.html>
- <http://www.princetonol.com/groups/iad/links/artgames.html>
- <http://www.kinderart.com/>



# List of Art Stores and Catalogues

## Art Stores:

- Michaels
- Hobby Lobby
- Blick Art Materials Store
- Joann Fabric Art Store
- Utrecht Art Supplies
- Carlson Paint & Glass

## Catalogues:

- Discount School Supply
- S&S Worldwide
- Sax Arts & Crafts
- Triarco Arts & Crafts
- Nasco Arts & Crafts
- Oriental Trading