

ARTPLAY AT HOME



Rolling prints with natural inks

Instructions

- Grind the vegetables and berries in a mortar and pestle
- Strain the vegetable and berry juice through a sieve
- Dip the balls into the vegetable inks
- Roll them across the paper to create interesting patterns

You will need

- Paper
- Ping pong balls or similar
- Mortar and pestle
- Sieve
- Juicy fruit and vegetables such as spinach, beetroot ends, raspberries, or blueberries

ARTPLAY

FAMILY
SERVICES

AGE
2-5


CITY OF MELBOURNE

This activity was developed as part of the Picture Book Program

ARTPLAY AT HOME



Rock Creatures

Instructions

- Collect some round, flat stones with a smooth surface
- Draw the face of your favourite animal, person, or magical creature with the crayons and pencils
- Place your rock creature in the garden or a plant pot
- Use your imagination to create a natural environment for your rock creature using twigs, leaves, gumnuts and pinecones

You will need

- Smooth stones
- Coloured pencils
- Wax crayons

Choose some of these

- Small twigs and leaves from outside
- Gumnuts
- Pinecones



ARTPLAY

FAMILY
SERVICES

AGE
2-5



This activity was developed as part of the Picture Book Program

ARTPLAY AT HOME



Submarine window

Instructions

- Cut the coloured paper into the shape of a circle (submarine window)
- Stick your window frame onto the transparent contact paper (sticky paper)
- Decorate your window by using the cellophane, tissue and card paper to build your image (imagine a window of a submarine)
- When you are finished decorating, stick another piece of the contact paper over your window
- Cut out your window following your circle frame

You will need

- Transparent contact paper (sticky paper)
- Coloured paper for frame and cut outs
- Cellophane paper
 - Tissue paper
- Masking tape
 - Scissors



ARTPLAY

FAMILY
SERVICES

AGE
2-5



This activity was developed as part of the Picture Book Program

ARTPLAY AT HOME



Floral Sun Catcher

You will need

- Clear contact sheet
- Petals and leaves
- Icy pole sticks

Instructions

- Collect different shapes, colours and sizes of petals and leaves
- Cut square shaped pieces of contact
- Firmly place icy pole sticks around the edges to give the contact square a strong frame
- Pluck some petals and leaves and place them on the sticky side of the contact sheet
- Once finished, you can tape the sun catchers on windows
- Watch tiny shapes and lines appear as the light shines through
- Every petal and every leaf is different!



ARTPLAY

FAMILY
SERVICES

AGE
2-5

M
CITY OF MELBOURNE

This activity was developed as part of the Picture Book Program

ARTPLAY AT HOME



Galaxy Playdough

Instructions

- Mix all ingredients in a saucepan over medium heat until doughy
- To get a dark midnight colour: use a lot of blue, some red, and a small amount of yellow food colouring (add more as you go if you need)
- Next, tip it out and knead until you're happy with the texture
- Lastly, add the glitter!



You will need

- 1/2 cup salt
- 1 cup plain flour
- 2 tablespoons cream of tartar
- 1 cup water
- 1 tablespoon oil
- Red, blue and yellow food colouring
- Silver glitter



ARTPLAY

FAMILY
SERVICES

AGE
2-5

M
CITY OF MELBOURNE

This activity was developed as part of the Picture Book Program

ARTPLAY AT HOME



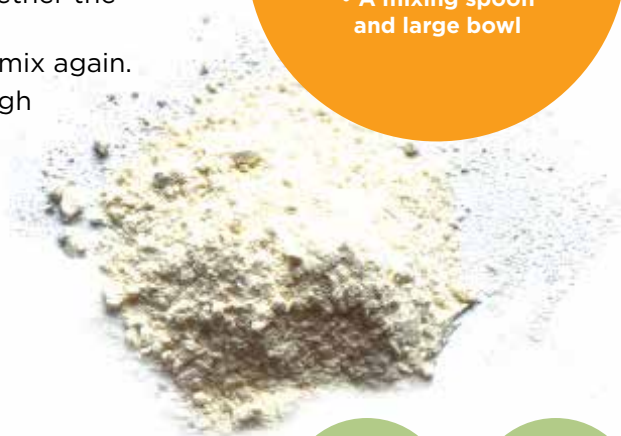
Cloud Dough Recipe

Instructions

- In a large bowl, stir together the vegetable oil and flour.
- Add paint powder and mix again.
- This super sensory dough can be easily moulded and shaped, yet it slides through your fingers as soft as a cloud. Cloud dough is non-toxic and will last in an airtight container for a few weeks.

You will need

- 8 cups flour
- 1 cup vegetable oil,
- 1 tablespoon of non-toxic paint powder (optional)
- A mixing spoon and large bowl



ARTPLAY

FAMILY
SERVICES

AGE
2-5



This activity was developed as part of the Picture Book Program

ARTPLAY AT HOME



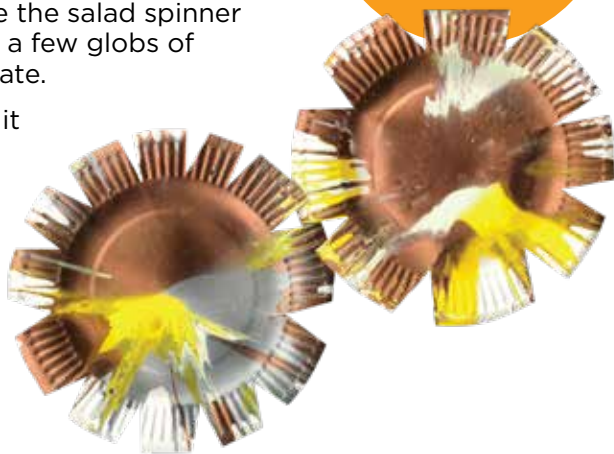
Salad spinner painting

Instructions

- Place a paper plate inside the salad spinner and have your child drop a few globs of paint anywhere on the plate.
- Place the lid on and give it a fast spin, your child will love this bit!
- Open the lid and take a look inside at your spin art!
- Carefully pull out the plate and let it dry.

You will need

- Salad spinner
- Washable paint in 'squeeze' bottles
- Small paper plates



ARTPLAY

FAMILY
SERVICES

AGE
2-5

M
CITY OF MELBOURNE

This activity was developed as part of the Picture Book Program

ARTPLAY AT HOME



INSECTables - vegetable insects

Instructions

- Shape the playdough to make the main part of the insect's body
- Stick spices, leaves, or twigs into the playdough for the insect's eyes and legs
- Using the toothpicks or skewers, attach vegetable scraps to give your insects other body parts, such as feet and wings
- Use your imagination to make any insect, animal, or creature you like

You will need

- Playdough
- Vegetable scraps leftover from cooking, such as spring onion roots, carrot ends, spinach root, beetroot ends, eggplant, tomato, cucumber
- Toothpicks or wooden skewers

Choose some of these

- Small twigs, Gumnuts and leaves
- Whole spices such as cloves or star anise



ARTPLAY

FAMILY
SERVICES

AGE
2-5



This activity was developed as part of the Picture Book Program

ARTPLAY AT HOME



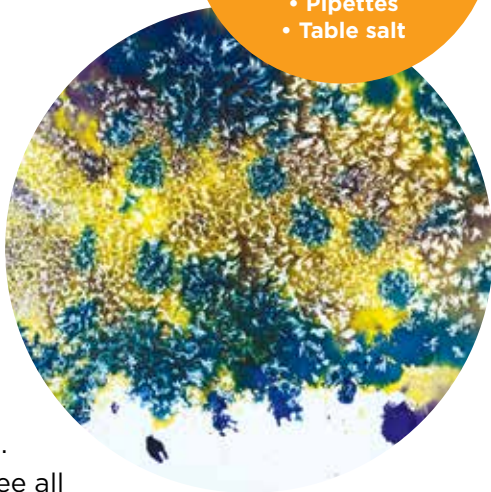
Ink and salt painting

Instructions

- Spread out your paper.
- Prepare a selection of different coloured inks in plastic cups.
- Using the pipette, squeeze the end while you dip it into the ink.
- When you see that the ink has entered the pipette start squirting the ink on the paper. Have fun with this!
- When you are happy with your painting, sprinkle some salt on top.
- After it is dry, you will be able to see all the magical effects created by the salt.

You will need

- Paper
- Ink
- Plastic cups
- Pipettes
- Table salt



ARTPLAY

FAMILY
SERVICES

AGE
2-5

M
CITY OF MELBOURNE

This activity was developed as part of the Picture Book Program

ARTPLAY AT HOME



Recycled binoculars

Instructions

- Stick tubes together with masking tape; this will create the body of the binoculars.
- Once the body is firm, it is time to decorate them. We used stickers and different kinds of tape, but you can use whatever material you want for this bit.
- Now you will need to make 2 holes on each tube. Thread the wool through those holes and make a knot to create a strap. You are now ready to go outside and explore!

You will
need

- Cardboard tubes
- Masking tape
 - Wool
- Hole puncher
- Stickers to
decorate



ARTPLAY

FAMILY
SERVICES

AGE
2-5



This activity was developed as part of the Picture Book Program

ARTPLAY AT HOME



Rock Painting

Instructions

- Collect rocks from your garden
- Wash the rocks before you use them
- Place one or two rocks at a time in the salad spinner and have your child drop a few globs of paint anywhere on the rocks
- Place the lid on and give it a fast spin, so much fun!
- Open the lid and take a look inside at your colourful rock collection!
- Carefully pull out the rocks and let them dry.



You will need

- Rocks (not too heavy)
- Salad spinner
- Washable paint

ARTPLAY

FAMILY
SERVICES

AGE
2-5



This activity was developed as part of the Picture Book Program

ARTPLAY AT HOME



Natural water colour painting

Instructions

- Place the paper on the table.
- Create the colours by mixing each of the spices and food items with water in separate containers. Provide no more than 4 colours at a time.
- When using the sliced beetroot allow your child to move it around with their hands.
- Dunk the tea bags into the different containers to change the colours.
- If you want to keep the colours separate, have a glass of water to wash brushes out between using each colour.
- Before you start painting, explore the smells

You will need

- You will need**
 - Turmeric
 - Paprika
 - Sliced beetroot
- Tea leaves and tea bags
 - Coffee
 - Cocoa
 - Water
- Paint brush
- Paper

ARTPLAY

FAMILY
SERVICES

AGE
2-5


CITY OF MELBOURNE

This activity was developed as part of the Picture Book Program

ARTPLAY AT HOME



Shaving cream stack

Instructions

- Fill a container with shaving cream.
- Display recycled materials on the table or floor so your child can explore and choose what they desire.
- Show your child that the shaving cream works like glue, then allow them to explore and build stacks with the materials.

You will need

- Shaving Cream
- Recycled materials, for example: sponge shapes, all sizes of cardboard boxes, plastic bottle tops and bottles, coloured paper, straws etc. (Anything that is light in weight)



ARTPLAY

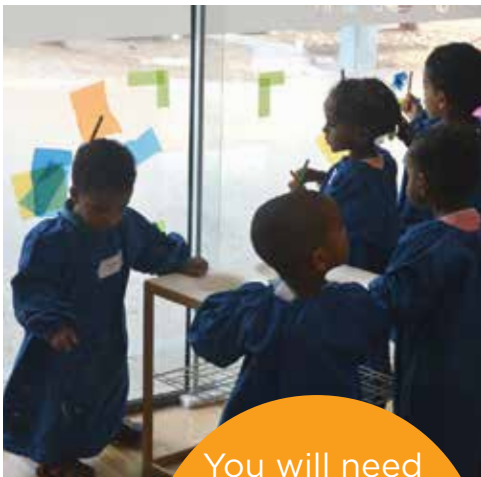
FAMILY
SERVICES

AGE
2-5



This activity was developed as part of the Picture Book Program

ARTPLAY AT HOME



You will need

- You will need
 - Clear contact paper
 - Sticky tape
 - Coloured cellophane
 - Cotton balls
 - Popsicle sticks
 - Coloured paper

Sticky window art

Instructions

- Cut out a large sheet of the clear sticky contact paper.
- Use tape on the corners to stick the contact sheet firmly to the window, having the sticky side facing you.
- Enjoy sticking coloured cellophane, pompoms, popsicle sticks and other objects you might find around you!
- Once you have finished, you can peel the objects off and start again!



ARTPLAY

FAMILY
SERVICES

AGE
2-5

M
CITY OF MELBOURNE

This activity was developed as part of the Picture Book Program

ARTPLAY AT HOME



Branch Weaving

Instructions

- Collect 3 to 4 branch sticks. You can get them from your garden, backyard or the nearest park!
- Use tape to stick the branch sticks to each other to make a frame of any shape such as a triangle or a square.
- Start weaving the woolen string from one corner to the other. You can have someone help by holding the frame while you weave up and down.
- Once you have finished with the weaving, you can add other natural objects, such as flowers, leaves and feathers!

You will need

- 3 to 4 branch sticks
- Woolen string
- Sticky tape
- Feathers
- Flowers
- Leaves



ARTPLAY

FAMILY
SERVICES

AGE
2-5

M
CITY OF MELBOURNE

This activity was developed as part of the Picture Book Program

ARTPLAY AT HOME



CardBird

Instructions

- Cut down the cardboard to the shape of a bird
- Use the left over cardboard pieces for the wings and beak
- Use the feathers and other things to decorate your bird
- Use a hole puncher to make a hole
- Thread a piece of string through the hole
- Your cardBIRD is now ready to be hung around the house or play with outside



You will need

- **Recycled cardboard (cereal boxes, biscuits)**
 - Feathers
 - Straws
- **Any other materials you may have lying around your home**
- **Scissors, stapler, string, hole puncher**

ARTPLAY

FAMILY
SERVICES

AGE
2-5



This activity was developed as part of the Picture Book Program

ARTPLAY AT HOME



Colours and smells

Instructions

- Grind vegetables, berries, leaves, or flowers in a mortar and pestle
- Strain vegetable and berry juice through a sieve
- Put flour, warm water, salt, vegetable oil, and cream of tartar in a saucepan
- Stir over a low heat
- When dough is half mixed, add your juice mix for colour
- When the dough comes away easily from the side of the pan, remove from heat
- Let it cool and then mix in spices or instant coffee

You will need

- 2 cups flour
- 2 cups warm water
- 1 cup salt
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1 tablespoon cream of tartar
- Mortar and pestle
- Sieve
- Saucepan

Choose some of these

- Ground spices such as cinnamon, nutmeg, turmeric
- Fruit and vegetables such as spinach, beetroot ends, raspberries, or blueberries
- Flowers, leaves, and anything you can find in the garden
- Instant coffee

ARTPLAY

FAMILY
SERVICES

AGE
2-5

M
CITY OF MELBOURNE

This activity was developed as part of the Picture Book Program

ARTPLAY AT HOME



Mess-free Finger painting

Instructions

- Squirt 1 or 2 colors of paint in a Ziploc bag and seal the bag firmly.
- Use sticky tape along the Ziploc bag's edges to stick it on a table, window or any surface of your choice.
- Move your fingers along the outside of the Ziploc bag to mix the paint inside it.
- Have fun mixing the paints together and drawing in patterns using your fingers and hands!
- Remember to keep the bag tightly closed so that no paint comes out!

You will need

- 1 Ziploc bag
- Paints
- Sticky tape



ARTPLAY

FAMILY
SERVICES

AGE
2-5


CITY OF MELBOURNE

This activity was developed as part of the Picture Book Program

ARTPLAY AT HOME



Earth Mandalas

Instructions

- Gather any natural objects that appeal to you.
- Once you have enough items, take the time to consider which ones to choose and where to place them in a circular pattern on a flat spot.
- Give your circle enough space to grow over time.
- The act of mindfully walking in and out of the circle and placing the objects in a circular pattern helps children to focus into a quiet, relaxed state while they connect with their creativity.

You will need

- A container that your child can easily hold and carry
- Different coloured and sized leaves, sticks, flowers, rocks and seed pods
- Take the lead to encourage your child



ARTPLAY

FAMILY
SERVICES

AGE
2-5

M
CITY OF MELBOURNE

This activity was developed as part of the Picture Book Program