

BLINK AT HOME

Water Art

Can you create art with water?

Skills to Develop

- + Fine motor skills
- + Creative thinking
- + Color identification

Materials

- + Water
- + Small container
- + Paint brush
- + Tissue paper/crepe paper
- + Scissors
- + Towels
- + Cookie sheet
- + Heavy paper

WHAT TO DO

During the Learning Activity

1. Ready your workspace. Fill a small container with water. Set towels near your workspace to clean up any spills. Place a sheet of paper inside a cookie sheet with walls to help contain any excess water.
2. Invite your child to cut or tear the tissue or crepe paper into smaller pieces and arrange them on the sheet of white paper. As they arrange the tissue paper, ask questions about their process: *what colors are you using? What shape is that? What are you adding next?*
3. Once your child has laid the paper where they want it to go, invite them to use the paintbrush to apply a small amount of water to stick the tissue paper in place. The more water you add, the more the tissue paper will bleed onto the white paper. Invite your child to add as much water as they want, but be aware that too much water may cause the paper to tear.
4. Set your art aside to dry completely. Once the artwork is completely dry, invite your child to peel any remaining tissue paper off the white paper, leaving only the color bleed artwork behind.

Extend the Fun

- + Create collage letters to spell your child's name.
- + Investigate the effects of more or less water on your artwork.

BLINK AT HOME

Oil and Water Art

Can you create art with water and oil?

Skills to Develop

- + Fine motor skills
- + Creative thinking
- + Science process skills

Materials

- + Water
- + Shallow baking dish
- + Food coloring
- + Heavy paper
- + Eye droppers
- + Cooking oil
- + Small containers

WHAT TO DO

During the Learning Activity

1. Ready your workspace. Pour just enough water into your baking dish to cover the bottom. Cut your paper to fit inside the baking dish. Pour a small amount of cooking oil in a small container.
2. Invite your child to choose a color and drop a few droplets of food coloring into the water. Stir the food coloring into the water and add more food coloring until you achieve the desired shade.
3. Invite your child to fill the eye dropper with cooking oil and drop a little bit at a time into the baking dish. Ask: *what do you see?*
4. Gently place a sheet of paper into the baking dish so that it floats on top of the water. After a moment, pull the paper out and set it aside to dry. Ask: *what do you notice about the artwork? Why do you think it looks like this?*
5. Invite your child to use the eye droppers to drop different colors of food coloring onto the artwork and share their observations. Explain that the oil and water do not mix, and the white spaces on the paper are the oil, whereas the colorful spaces are the colored water.
6. Allow your marbelized paper to dry. If needed, iron the paper between brown paper bags to remove the oil before use in other art projects.

Extend the Fun

- + Use the paper to create cards to send to friends or family.
- + Use the paper in collages or other art projects.