



OMSI EARLY LEARNER ACTIVITY: TIE DYE PAINTING

Objective: Children explore mixing colors by using eyedroppers to drip paint onto coffee filters.

Age Range: 2 & up

CONTENT TOPICS

Color Mixing
Matter³
Art³

PROCESS SKILLS

Observing¹
Finding Patterns and Relationships¹
Cause and Effect

¹ Science Process Skills ² Head Start Child Outcomes ³ Oregon Early Childhood Foundations

TIME REQUIRED

Advance Preparation

About 10 min

Set Up

About 10 min.

Activity

About 30 min.

Clean Up

About 10 min.

MATERIALS

eyedroppers, super absorbent paper towels, tempera paints, water, art trays

ADVANCE PREPARATION

- Fill paint cups with different colors of tempera paint.
- Water down the paint so that it will flow easily through the eyedroppers.
- If you wish, you can cut the paper towels into shapes.

EXPLANATION

The following is a sample of some scientific explanations behind this subject. For more information see the books in the Discovery Box.

- *When you mix two colors together a new color is made.*
- *Red, yellow, and blue are called the **primary colors**. They are called this because you can make all of the other colors by mixing them.*
- *Orange, Purple, and green are called **secondary colors**.*

ACTIVITY PROCEDURE

1. Set out the paper towels, watered down tempera paints, art trays and eyedroppers.
2. Encourage the children to use the eyedroppers to drip the paint onto the paper towels.
3. Young children may need help grasping and letting go of the top of the eyedropper to suction the paint up.

DISCUSSION

To discuss the topic, explore the children's knowledge on the subject through open-ended questions.

Ask:

What happened to the paint once it was on the paper towel?

What happened when the colors mixed together?

What colors did you paint with?