
Epsom Salt Art Activity

By: Caitlin Ryder



On Wednesday, November 9, 2011, Mrs. Guerrier's class participated in an Epsom Salt Art Activity. I chose this activity, because once the artwork dries, it looks like it is covered in frost. Now is the time of year when frost is beginning to cover the ground, plants, and vehicles in the mornings. When the children get up in the morning, they can look out their windows and relate this activity to what they see!

I placed three pieces of blue construction paper around the round table in the art area so that three children could participate at a time. I drew three names at a time to see what order the children would do the activity in and as a way to take turns. I chose to have the children use the round crayons, because they are easier to grip and they needed to press down hard with the crayons in order for the activity to work properly. When it was a child's turn, they chose a crayon, colored on their paper, and then painted over it with the Epsom salt solution. Once they were done coloring and painting, we hung their artwork on the clothesline over the heater to dry. Once the artwork was dry, we discussed how the end result looked like the frost they see in the morning! For this activity, I had three objectives: The child will hold the crayon and paint brush correctly with a pincer grasp, the child will follow directions written on the direction cards, and the child will describe how their artwork looks different once it dries. We achieved these objectives by making sure everyone held the crayon and brush correctly, reading the directions before we began, and talking about the artwork once it dried.



Art activities are vital for a good childhood program. Allowing children to be creative with art helps them gain positive attitudes, intellectual skills, confidence, and fine motor skills. Children want and need to express themselves and art is a great way for them to do that. Art can also be incorporated into any curriculum in so many ways! "Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once he grows up." -Picasso
