

Sock Drop Paintings!

By: Ashleigh Harmon

On Tuesday, November 15, we painted with corn at the YCP! I filled 3 nylon stockings with different amounts of corn kernels, then each child dipped the sock in paint and dropped it onto a piece of paper that was laying in a tray on the floor.

I had three main objectives for this activity. The first was for the children to be able to use instruction cards to guide them through the activity. All of the children have participated in other student-led activities, so they seemed to understand the purpose of the instruction cards and were able to complete the activity without too much instruction from me. My next objective was to introduce the children to the concept of “small, medium, and large.” Although I used these words repeatedly with the children in my introduction of the activity, not many used them while they were doing the activity. However, I initiated conversations with each child about this concept, and most of them were able to correctly use these 3 words in conversation.



My final objective was the hardest to implement. I was looking for the children to comment on how the different size corn droppers made different size prints on the paper once dropped. However, the droppers did not always make consistent size prints, and sometimes the big dropper would produce a pretty small circle on the paper. I think this is because of the angle at which the droppers fell, or differing amounts of paint on each dropper. Since the prints were not consistent with the size of the dropper, it was difficult for the children to grasp the concept that the big dropper should always make the largest circles on the paper.

Giving young children the opportunity to express themselves through creative art is so beneficial to their development. Almost all art projects can help develop and refine gross and fine motor, cognitive, social, emotional, and communication skills. Relating art projects to the children’s own lives and experiences further extends learning.

I really enjoyed working on this art project with your children, and all of the final products turned out great!