

Appropriate for :
Young Toddlers and Older Toddlers.



Paint the House

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- Paint rollers and/or a variety of sizes of household paint brushes
- Paint pans and/or empty paint cans
- Water
- Smock (optional)

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Find a place outdoors like a side of a play structure or the side of the child care center where water will change the color of the material. Brick and natural colored wood works well.
- Fill paint pans and paint cans with water.
- Place rollers and brushes with the pans and paint cans.
- Show children how to get the paint utensils wet and “paint” the building.

What the adult can do to support learning and development in these domains:

- Welcome questions from children about why things happen. If possible, show them while you explain.
- Allow children to make a mess and feel the water as part of the sensory experience. Add language to the experiences.
- Encourage children to explore other ways that they can paint by asking questions such as “what would happen if...”
- Assist children as needed to choose a size of brush appropriate for their motor abilities.
- Allow toddlers to explore and experience activity on different surfaces.

Examples of language that can be used between caregiver and child:

- “Wow, you are painting the house! The wood is a lot darker now that you painted it.”
- “You are wet! How does that water feel?”
- “You are working very hard to paint with that big brush!”

This activity highlights support for the following *NCFELD* domain:

Cognitive Development	Approaches to Play & Learning	Language Development & Communication	Emotional and Social Development	Health & Physical Development
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