

BLINK AT HOME

Homemade Paint

How can I make paint?

Skills to Develop

- + Fine motor
- + Creative thinking
- + Color identification
- + Color mixing
- + Shape identification

Materials

- + Corn syrup or condensed milk
- + Paint brushes
- + Food coloring
- + Paper
- + Small bowls or containers
- + Large towel (optional)

WHAT TO DO

Prepare Before the Activity

1. Mix homemade paint as close to the desired time of use as possible as it does not keep well.
2. Choose corn syrup for a water-color consistency and condensed milk for a thicker, tempera-style paint consistency. Note: Regular milk does not work well.
3. Pour corn syrup or condensed milk into small bowls. Use one bowl for each color of paint you wish to make. Consider using small containers with lids for easy spill-free transportation.
4. Add a few drops of food coloring and stir carefully. Continue to add food coloring as you stir until the paint is the desired shade.

During the Learning Activity

1. Place towel underneath painting area to protect the floor. You may also choose to take the painting outdoors for easier cleanup, as food coloring-based paint may stain.
2. Allow children to paint! Children may use their fingers or paint brushes
3. Discuss the artwork and art creation process. *What colors are used? What happens when mixing different colors? What shapes are they making? What are they feeling as they paint? What title would they give the finished painting?*

Extend the Fun

- + Pack paints on your next nature walk and complete an 'en plein air' style painting outside in nature.
- + Cut heavier paper to 5.8"x4.1" and create postcards to send to friends and family using a postcard stamp.