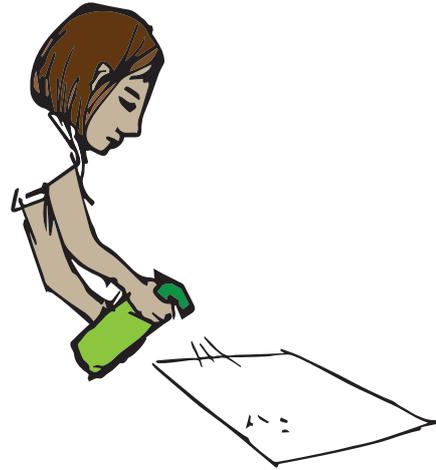


Chalk Spray Paint

Discipline: Visual Arts

Mess-level: Messy 🖐️🖐️🖐️🖐️



OVERVIEW

With some cornstarch, water, and food coloring, you can create a liquid chalk paint that can be sprayed on sidewalks. You can try a variety of designs on sidewalks or basketball courts. The “paint” will disappear with water or rain. Let each child mix up one color and encourage them to share and trade their finished product. The paint also works well on paper.

MATERIALS

- ✓ **Spray bottles** (found at discount stores in a variety of colors)
- ✓ **Cornstarch:** 1/3 cup per child
- ✓ **Baking Soda:** 2 tablespoons per child
- ✓ A **funnel** makes pouring ingredients easier
- ✓ **Water**



Step 1

Begin by mixing up the cornstarch and the baking soda together. Each child needs about 1/3 cup cornstarch and 2 TBSP of baking soda.



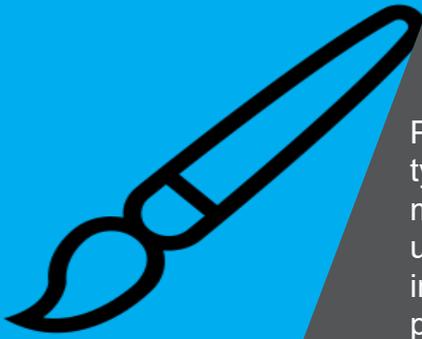
Step 2

Pour the ingredients into the spray bottle using a funnel (or stiff paper shaped into a funnel). Add warm water to finish filling up the bottle, a drop of color, and swirl to mix.



Step 3

You are now ready to start spraying your paint. You may need to shake the bottle occasionally to keep the ingredients mixed. Sharing colors is fun!



Keep It Going!

Place tape or shapes on top of your paper to create “resist” art. This type of art is created by keeping areas selectively unpainted. That means that whatever shape or tape pattern is on top will create an unpainted area as the children spray. This can be especially fun with initials or sticker letters that spell out a child’s name (vinyl letters will peel off easily--regular stickers might be hard to remove). Hang name art up during a program to help your participants feel welcome and important.



Keep It Going!

It may amaze children to learn that the “chalk” they just painted with came from corn. Put a nutrition angle on your spray painting by bringing in several ingredients that derive from corn: corn syrup, confectioners sugar, canned corn, corn flakes, corn meal, and regular old corn-on-the-cob. This can be a great way to discuss processed foods and how our healthiest options are usually the ones closest to the way that they are found in nature. Bonus points for encouraging children to “shuck” corn and serving corn-on-the-cob as a snack.



Keep It Going!

Once your chalk paint dries, you can enjoy making a chemical reaction with the baking soda in the paint by spraying it with vinegar. This will transform your chalk paint into “fizzing” chalk paint. Simply find an extra spray bottle, fill it with vinegar, and go back over your designs. What the baking soda in the spray chalk bubble up. The thicker the paint, the better.