



PAL at Home

Preschool Art Lab activities for families to make together

ARTS PLUS

“Shaving Cream Prints”

This activity is appropriate for ages 3 and up

Time from start to finish = 10-30 minutes depending on difficulty level or variation

You will need the following materials:

- A rectangular baking pan (or other deep container made of plastic or metal)
- Shaving cream
- Food dye
- A pencil or other long narrow object (I use a chopstick!)
- Blank paper smaller than the pan
- A small piece of cardboard or other stiff material

***This project can get messy, so either lay down something to protect your work space or do this outside

Brief project description:

- For this project, children will use shaving cream and food dye to marble their own papers. Using the shaving cream as a base, children can create unique, one-of-a-kind prints with intricate swirled designs.

Steps

- #1: Prepare your work area by covering any surfaces you want to remain clean. Spray the shaving cream into the baking pan or container. Make sure you add enough to have 2 inches of shaving cream. Use the small piece of cardboard to smooth out the shaving cream until it is flat and even within the baking pan.



- #2: Have your child use the food dye to add small drops of color all over the surface of the shaving cream. A little goes a long way, so don't squeeze the food dye too hard. Next, have your child use the

pencil (or chop stick!) by inserting it into the shaving cream and swirling it through all of the food coloring drops. The goal is to disperse the dye across the shaving cream and remove any big globs of color. But careful not to over mix it! You want the colors to show in a distinct swirl, not all blend together.



- #3: Have your child choose a piece of paper and carefully lay it onto the surface of the now colorful shaving cream. Once the paper is lying flat, gently smooth every part of the paper so that it all makes contact with the shaving cream surface.

- #4: Carefully lift up the paper by the corner. It may look messy at first but don't fret. Take the small piece of cardboard again and use it to firmly scrape off the remaining shaving cream from the paper. You should now have a colorful marbled design!



- #5: To do a second print, simply scrape off the uppermost portion of the shaving cream and re-smooth it. Now you can start the whole process over again and make another print! You can repeat this as much as you want by simply adding more shaving cream if it gets low. For older children, try creating intricate patterns and careful designs with the food dye and swirling motions!

