



ARTS PLUS

PAL at Home

Preschool Art Lab activities for families to make together

“Watercolor Salt Paintings”

This activity is appropriate for ages 3 and up

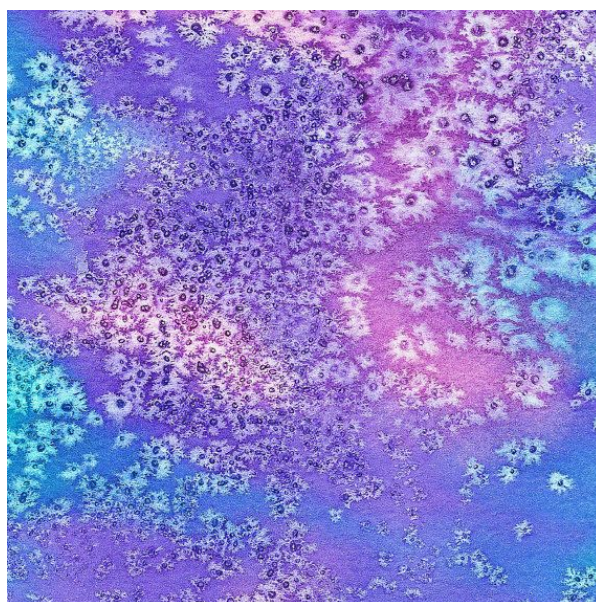
Time from start to finish = 15-30 minutes

You will need the following materials:

- Watercolor paper (or any thick paper)
- Watercolor
- Water
- Paintbrushes
- Salt (coarse salt works best, but any will do...)

Brief project description:

Learn about how salt crystals absorb watercolor and create an abstract painting!



Steps

- **#1:** Prepare your watercolor paints. If you are working with dry watercolor “pans” add water to them and scrub the surface a bit; this will activate the paint. Make sure your watercolor is nice and fluid.
- **#2:** Dip your paintbrush in water and spread water on your paper first. Make sure to spread the water across the entire sheet of paper. You don’t want your paper soaking wet, but you do want to make sure that it is damp throughout.
- **#3:** Once your paper is wet, add areas of watercolor using as many colors as you’d like. Cover your entire paper with watercolor. Try not to leave any blank spots.
- **#4:** Once your paper completely covered in watercolor and while the paint is still wet, sprinkle salt all over your paper. You want to sprinkle a good amount of salt but make sure the salt is spread out across the sheet. Avoid piles or mounds of salt on your paper. Set the paper aside to dry.
- **#5:** As the painting dries, the salt soaks up the extra moisture in the paint and leaves behind a really cool texture that resembles snowflakes! Once the page is dry, gently rub the salt off with your fingers. Make sure you do this over a trashcan, so the salt doesn’t spill everywhere. You now have a completed abstract watercolor salt painting! Try the whole process again using different colors.

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