

Art Ideas

Chunky Rainbow Crayons

Description:

Reuse left-over crayon pieces by recycling them into chunky rainbow crayons that are fun and easy for small children to use.

Audience: 3–5 years of age

Group Size: 2–16 children



Materials: Crayon stubs, ends, and broken pieces
Muffin pan
Vegetable cooking spray
Oven and oven mitts



Procedure:

1. Collect crayon stubs, ends and broken pieces.
2. Remove paper wrappers. If the paper is difficult to remove, soak the crayons in water first.
3. Break the crayons into smaller pieces and fill the muffin pan. Play around with different-sized pieces and colour combinations.

Tip: Try a mini muffin pan to make smaller crayons, or a novelty muffin pan for interesting shapes and designs.

4. Preheat oven to 150°C and bake the crayons for 8–10 minutes or until the wax has melted. Remove the muffin pan carefully as the wax will be very hot.

Tip: For a swirl effect, use a toothpick to stir the wax while it is still hot.

5. Let the crayons cool completely before popping them out of the muffin pan.
6. Reuse glass jars to display and store the finished rainbow crayons. Use the crayons at your preschool and enjoy!



Treasured Trash Art

Description:

Children use their imagination to turn everyday garbage items into fun characters, puppets or objects – turning trash into treasure!

Audience: 2–5 years of age

Group Size: 2–18 children



Materials: Child–safe scissors
White glue
Markers, crayons and paint (optional)
A wide variety of clean waste items



Choose waste items like chip bags, peanut–free candy wrappers, and colourful packaging; wrapping and tissue paper; scraps of string, wool and fabric; buttons and beads; magazines, flyers and newsprint; cracker, cereal and tissue boxes; paper towel rolls; bottle caps and straws; milk cartons; foil trays; old t–shirts and odd socks; etc.



Procedure:

1. Collect waste items and wash thoroughly. Try to gather an assortment of colours, textures, shapes, and sizes.
Tip: Ask other educators and parents to help collect waste items. Start collecting two weeks prior to the craft to ensure a good variety of material.
2. Have the children sit around a table and place the collected waste items in the centre.
3. Provide the children with child–safe scissors, white glue, markers, crayons, or paint.
4. Instruct the children to use the waste material to make their own creations like an animal, a puppet, a robot, a spaceship, etc.
Tip: Provide examples and inspiration by playing with the different materials and coming up with your own creations.
5. Enjoy seeing what the children create!