



HELLO PARENTS,

Artistic activities foster intellectual development, stimulate both sides of the brain, increase the capacity of memory, attention and concentration. Imagination is critical in child development and art allows children to develop social, emotional, creative, physical, lingual, and problem solving skills. Through self-expression and creativity, children's skills develop naturally, and their ability to create soars. Imagination draws on our experiences and knowledge of the world around us and combines them with the complete unknown to make something new. It allows us to explore beyond our environment and our reality, into a world of dreams, where creativity and invention are at their strongest. In this newsletter, we provide activities to nurture your child's imagination through art activities.

ACTIVITIES

INFANTS (3 -18 MONTHS)

BALL PAINTING

MATERIALS:

- Paper
- Edible paint. [Click here](#) for edible paint recipe.
- Containers
- Different shapes and sizes of balls

DIRECTIONS:

- Put the edible paint in different containers.
- Put the paper and the edible paint in front of your child.
- Let your child explore the paint and paper with their hands.
- Put the ball in the paint, give it to your child, and watch as they explore it.
- Comment on what your child is doing.

[Click here](#) for more activities.

TODDLERS (19 MONTHS – 2.5 YEARS)

BLOW PAINTING MONSTERS

MATERIALS:

- Straws
- Paper
- Paint diluted with water or water and food colouring
- Spoons
- Containers
- Markers

DIRECTIONS:

- Put the coloured water in different containers and dedicate a spoon for each colour.
- Help your child to use the spoons, and pour the coloured water onto the paper.
- Show your child how to use the straws and spread the colour on the paper by blowing it.
- When the paper dries, use markers to draw the face of your monster.

[Click here](#) for more activities.

PRESCHOOLERS (2.5 – 5 YEARS)

LEAF PUPPETS

MATERIALS:

- Leaves
- Sticks
- Glue
- Paper
- Markers

DIRECTIONS:

- When you are on a walk with your child, find and collect some fallen leaves and sticks.

- When you are back home, give your child paper and markers and let them draw a head of a person or an animal.
- Give your child the fallen leaves and sticks you collected, and use them to create the rest of the person or the animal's body.
- Glue everything on the paper, wait until it is dry, then cut it out.
- Have fun making a puppet show!

[Click here](#) to learn how to print with leaves.

JK/SK (4 – 6 YEARS)

LOOPING WITH SHOELACES

MATERIALS:

- Paper
- Pen or pencil
- Straws
- Scissors
- Coloured pencils
- Shoelaces or any kind of thread
- Glue

DIRECTIONS:

- Draw a shape on the paper. For example: a star, a flower or a dinosaur, and colour it.
- Cut the straws into small pieces and glue them around the edges of your drawing and wait until it dries.
- Loop the shoelace or the thread through the small pieces of straw.

[Click here](#) for more activities.

SCHOOL-AGERS (6 – 12 YEARS)

PAPER SCULPTURE

MATERIALS:

- Different colours of construction paper
- Glue or tape
- Scissors
- Pencil

DIRECTIONS:

- Cut the construction paper into different strips.
- Fold the strips of paper in different ways, for example:
 - Rolling the paper around a pencil to make curls and spirals.
 - Folding the strips of paper into zigzag shapes.
 - Gluing the paper into a circle, square, or triangle.
 - Making a bridge within your sculpture.
- Start gluing or taping the shapes you made from the strips to a big piece of paper.
- You can glue or tape the strips of paper one next to another, on top, or under each other.

[Click here](#) to see how to make paper sculptures.

[Click here](#) for more activities.



Immigration, Refugees
and Citizenship Canada

Immigration, Réfugiés
et Citoyenneté Canada

A TIP FOR TODAY

- Keep the process of the art activity fun and open-ended.
- Cover surfaces with newspapers to catch bits of paper, glitter, drops of glue, and paint.
- Look for art projects that are age appropriate and play to your child's strengths and interests.