



Painting Stones



Painting stones is an activity suitable for all ages and allows children to be as creative as they want.

What you will need:

- Stones (flat and smooth)
- Paint
- Paintbrushes
- Cup of water

Optional

- Newspaper for the table
- Clear nail varnish
- Felt tip pens/markers



Wash and dry the stone, then paint it white all over. Allow to dry.

Then paint the stone in your chosen colour or design. Allow to dry completely before applying a second coat and/or varnish.

What is my child learning?

Painting is a relaxing sensory learning experience for children. It can be a great way for children to express themselves creatively and imaginatively.

Mark making with a paintbrush on a defined space gives children the opportunity to develop their fine motor skills, control skills and practice hand eye co-ordination.

Use open-ended questions to help stimulate and develop conversations. Examples might include: "I wonder what you could paint on the stone", "What colours did you use to paint your stone", or "What do you think will happen if we mix these two colours"

Suggestions to extend learning

1. Create a fairy garden using the painted stones. Put into a flowerpot or in a cleared area add soil, twigs, stones and flowers.
2. Create a story stone set – paint a stone to represent a key figure in your child's favourite book. For example The Gruffalo would have a mouse, a fox, an owl, a snake, a gruffalo, a nut and the woods.
3. Paint simple faces to help children discuss how they are feeling – happy, sad, angry, excited, sick or surprised.
4. Paint patterns, numbers, letters or shapes onto stones.

