



Windy Day Paintings Blowing with Straws

What you need:

- White paper
- Newspaper
- Tempera paint
- Spoon
- Straw

What to do:

- Place the white paper on a sheet of newspaper.
- Have the children spoon a small amount of paint on the white paper.
- Using the straw, each child can blow the paint, being careful to only blow out.
- For different wind patterns, the children can blow hard, soft, and in different directions.
- Allow the paintings to dry. Then hang up around the room for all to enjoy.

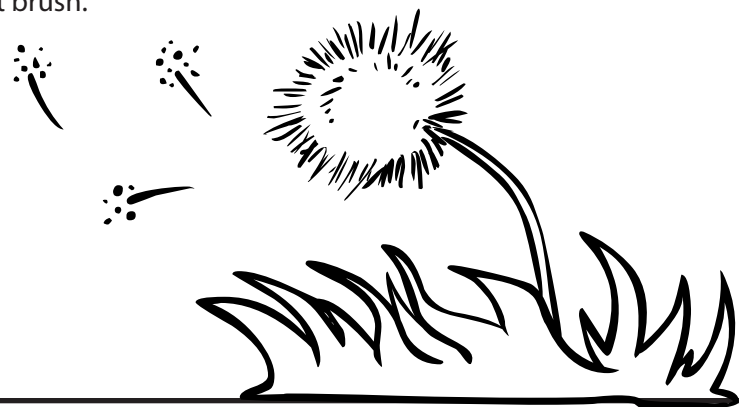
Windy Day Patterns

What you need:

- White construction paper
- Water
- Sponge or large paint brush
- Several colors of dry tempera paint
- Several strips of cardboard of different sizes and even textures. Corrugated cardboard would be good for this activity.

What to do:

- Wet the construction paper using a sponge or large paint brush.
- Give each child a small amount of three or four colors of dry tempera paint on their wet sheet of paper.
- Give them several strips of cardboard.
- The children can paint their version of a windy day by brushing the dry paint on the wet paper with the cardboard strips. They can mix and blend the colors.
- Wind can be gentle or very strong. The children can demonstrate this by pushing and pulling their strips of cardboard through the paint on the paper.



Paper Flowers

What you need:

- All kinds of paper – construction paper, tissue paper, gift wrapping paper, cupcake liners, crepe paper
- Beads, sequins, ribbon, trim, and other decorations
- Things to hold flowers such as paper cups, cardboard tubes, small aluminum pie tins, pipe cleaners, toothpicks, craft sticks, drinking straws, small flower pots, and juice cans. Some can be covered with paper and painted.
- Safety scissors

What to do:

- Paper can be folded, rolled, twisted, fringed, or curled to make the flowers. This is a chance for the children to be very creative.
- They can make stems and leaves and attach the flowers to them.
- The paper flower containers can be made from the supplies you have.
- The flowers can be used as decorations around the room, for a pretend flower show, or to play flower shop.

Planting and Playing

Outdoor play can be enhanced by planting flowers that will make a fun play area once they grow and bloom. The planting activity will teach the children about the life cycle of plants and what they need to grow. You might want to try planting some sunflowers. They come in a variety of sizes and can make a great place for warm weather play.

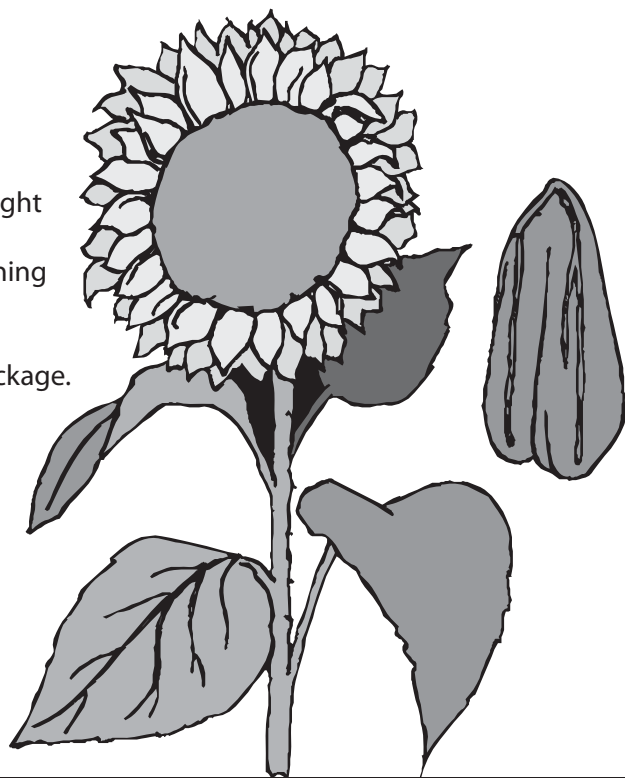
What you need:

- Sunflower seeds – use seeds from different varieties of sunflowers
- Shovel, trowel, watering can

What to do:

- Dig a place to plant the sunflower seeds. If you have room, you might want to make a circle or a square bed that can become a flower “playhouse” once the plants grow. Just make sure to leave an opening for a “doorway.”
- Plant the sunflower seeds.
- Cover the seeds with dirt, following the directions on the seed package.
- Water gently.
- Make sure to water the sunflower garden whenever it doesn’t rain or if the soil gets dry.

Once the flowers have grown, the children can use this special garden area for pretend play. It will be a wonderful place to spend time and imagine all kinds of things.



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Dr. James E. Van Horn, CFLE, Better Kid Care Program Director

Developed by Nancy Wilson, Penn State Better Kid Care Program
253 Easterly Parkway, State College, PA 16801 • Phone: 1-800-452-9108 • Website: betterkidcare.psu.edu

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