

Scrap Art

Anyone working with young children would benefit from having a container of scraps of many different things. Include things such as scraps of wrapping paper, pieces of cardboard (especially corrugated cardboard), ribbon, old buttons, yarn, plastic lids, wire, paper clips, cardboard tubes, etc.

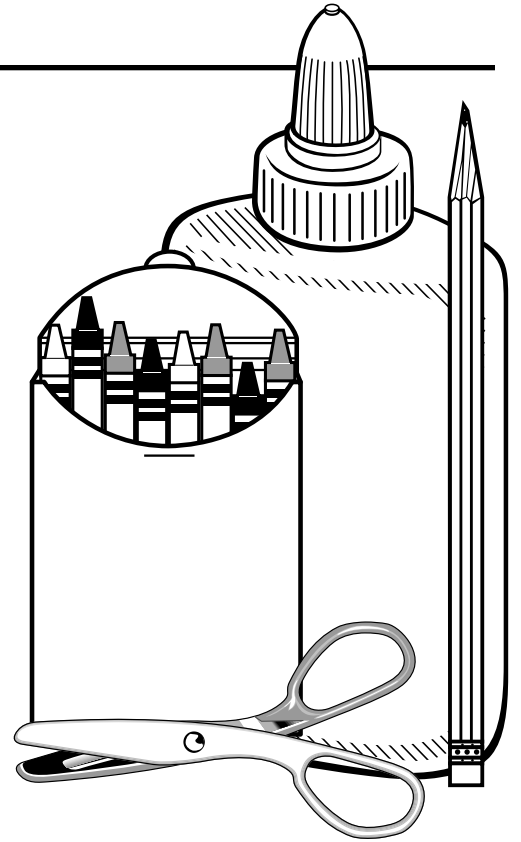
(This activity is recommended for children age three and older due to small pieces suggested for the scraps in this activity which could be a choking hazard for children under age three.)

What you need:

- Container of scraps
- White craft glue
- Safety scissors
- Various kinds of tape
- Large sheets of paper
- Anything else that you have around that could be used safely for a creative project.

What to do:

Put out the materials and give the children lots of time to create something from the scraps. Encourage them to be creative, but do not tell them what to make. You will be surprised at the original and creative results!

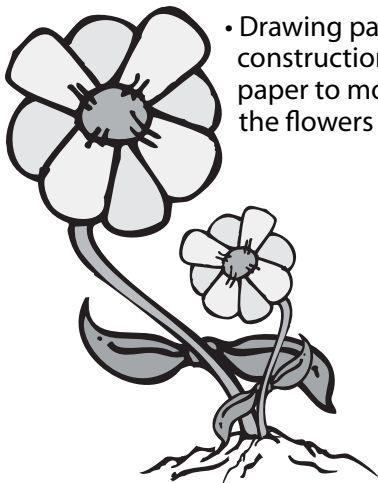


Curly Flowers

What you need:

- Colored paper
- Safety scissors
- Pencils
- White craft glue
- Washable markers and crayons

• Drawing paper or construction paper to mount the flowers

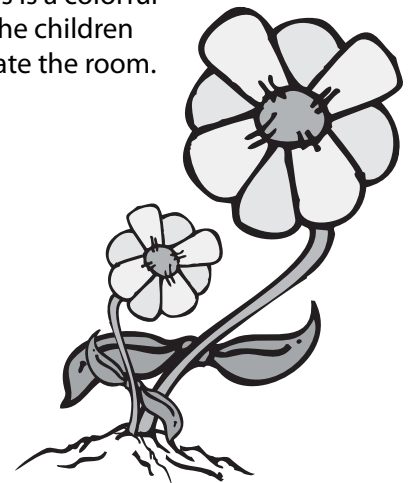


What to do:

- Cut several strips of the colored paper approximately ½ inch by 6 to 8 inches each. If the children are able, have them cut the strips.
- Take a paper strip and wind it tightly around a pencil. This will make it curl.
- Have the children draw some stems and leaves on their paper.
- Then, glue some of the paper curls to the tops of the stems to make the flowers. The children can make as many as they want for each of their flower pictures.

A variation for this activity:

Make a classroom garden of flowers by hanging a large mural-sized piece of paper. Have the children draw leaves and stems on the paper. Then they can glue their curly flowers to the stems they drew. This is a colorful way for the children to decorate the room.



Wind Game

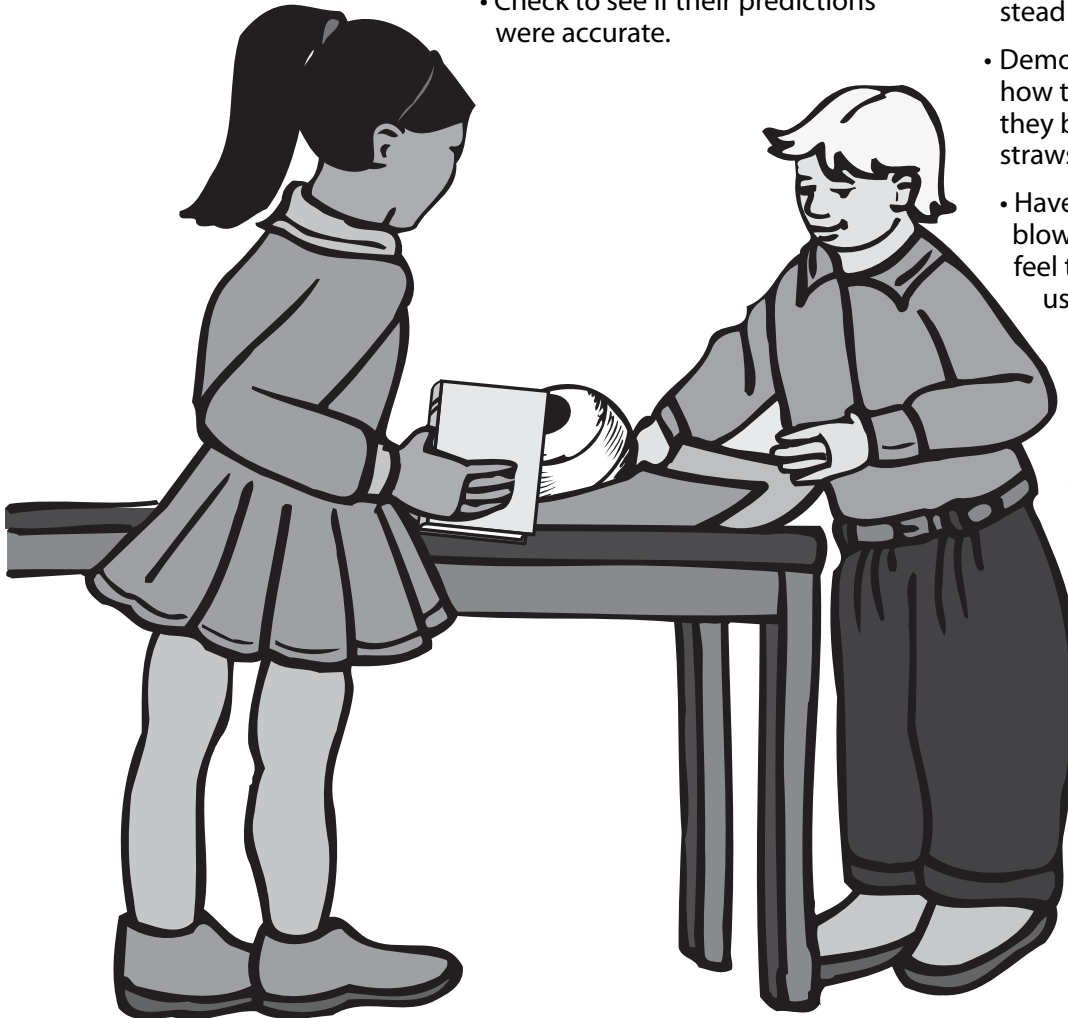
Talk about wind being air that we cannot see. Talk about how sometimes wind is gentle and sometimes it is really strong and can even move things. This activity will show the children how air or wind can move things. Before they blow on one of the objects, have the children predict whether or not it will move. Also, ask them if they think it will move easily or take a lot of hard blowing.

What you need:

- Cotton balls, feathers, small pieces of paper, a pencil, a small book, a stone, a pine cone, some pieces of grass, a small ball.

What to do:

- Place the objects on a smooth surface or table.
- Have each child take a turn blowing on one of the objects to see how much wind it takes to move each one or if it will move at all.
- Check to see if their predictions were accurate.



Air Painting

What you need:

- Drinking straws
- Spoon
- Tempera paint
- Paper
- Straight pin

What to do:

- Before starting, an adult should poke one or two holes near the end of the straw with a pin to prevent paint from being inhaled in case the children breathe in with the straw instead of out.
- Demonstrate for the children how to blow into a straw before they begin to paint with the straws.
- Have the children practice blowing out of a dry straw and feel the air coming out before using the paint.
- Spoon some paint onto the paper.
- Have them blow the paint around on the paper to make a design.
- Once the first color dries, the process could be repeated to add another color to the picture.

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