

Outdoor Learning Experience (3 years)

Learning experience: Throw Ball Painting	Shared by: Cheryl Chang
Environment: Open outdoor space close to washing vicinity or provide alternative	Estimated time: 30 minutes
Children’s prior experiences: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children are familiar with the outdoor space which they have been visiting frequently. • Children have prior experience in doing an underarm roll which involves a backward-forward swing of the hand to release an object. 	Suitable for: 3 years old
What children will experience: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children will expand their language skills as they communicate with peers to complete the activity. • Children will create an artwork by tossing balls and other items dipped in paint into a box. • Children will develop their fine and gross motor skills and their hand-eye coordination. 	EYDF Pillars: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Developing Child • The Intentional Programme • The Professional Educarer
What you will need: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare enough huge boxes (preferably washing machine/fridge size) or sheets of mah-jong paper to be taped on the ground or wall (provide clear plastic sheet over paper to protect wall from paint) so that 4-5 children can be assigned to each box or paper • Washing vicinity, alternative to prepare wet wipes/towels to clean off paint from the body • A new set of clothes and towel • Plastic bags for soiled clothes/towels • Ground cover/tarpaulin - to keep the paint from splattering on the ground (+the number of ground covers will depend on the size and number of boxes provided) • Butcher Paper • Tape • Flat trays of vibrant coloured paint: red, blue, yellow etc. • A few trays of balls in various colours, textures and sizes: plastic, rubber, soft/sponge, tennis, golf, table tennis, koosh ballas (the balls should be small enough that the children can grip and toss using one hand). 	Benefit - Risk Assessment: <p><u>Benefit:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children become more motivated and self-directed in playing in the open outdoor space. <p><u>Risk:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children may have paint splattering onto their faces and bump into each other in their excitement with the throw ball painting activity. <p><u>Management:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get children to use protective gear e.g. swim goggles and ensure ample space between each box of the different groups with supervision by the teachers.

- Other items to include: cotton balls, rolled socks, sponges, small water balloons, sensory squishy creatures

- Before going out, prepare children for the outdoor activity.
- Let the children know where they are going and where they can play in by setting boundaries with cones/lines.
- Go over the boundaries again when they get outdoors.
- Apply insect-repellent.
- Bring along first-aid kit.

How to make it happen:

1. Set the painting area with pieces of ground covers/tarpaulins +under the boxes in the outdoor space.
2. Place all the huge boxes or *mah-jong paper about 5-6 feet apart.
3. Tape the insides and/or outside of the box with butcher paper**.
4. Set out a few trays of different types of balls (as above), sponges, water balloons, sensory squishy creatures and paints.
5. With some vibrant coloured paint set out in flat trays, let children dip their balls and other items (as above) freely into the trays of paint.
6. Assign 4-5 children to each box.
7. Have children create their artwork by taking a ball and/or other items, dipping it in paint and then tossing the balls and/or other items inside/outside the box to splatter paint all over.
8. Children can choose new balls with different colours, sizes and textures any time during this process, until they have completed their artwork.
9. To help children learn the names of colours, instruct children to match the colour of the ball they have picked with the colour of the paint e.g. yellow tennis ball with the tray full of yellow paint and put the white golf ball, with the white paint.
10. Get each group of children to show and talk about the artwork they have created in the box. Ask them to talk about the colours and types of balls or other items they have used in creating their box artwork.
11. Ask the children to talk about the type of ball which they find to be easy to use for the painting activity (e.g. whether the balls are smooth, shiny, bumpy, hard, soft, furry, etc.)

Photographs:



Extension of activity:

**May leave the butcher paper as it is. The reason to tape paper was to simply have a removable piece of process art after the art activity so that the box can be used for something else the next day e.g. the children can play pet shop in there, use it as a workshop, enjoy the box as a reading nook, a secret hid-out or a cave for little bear to hibernate and many more such as an art studio for tin roll painting etc.