Art Recipes

Magic Crystal Paint

Bring two cups of water and two cups of Epsom salt to a boil. Stir. Let mixture cool. Add food coloring. Use paintbrush and paint on a white sheet of construction paper. When paint dries, colored crystals appear.

Jell-O Paint

For each desired color, mix 1/4 c. water, 3/4 c. glue, and a flavor of Jell-O. (Use enough Jell-O to achieve desired color) Paint a picture on construction paper. Allow paint 2 days to dry. Your picture will also have a wonderful scent and texture!

Shiny Paint

Mix 1 part white glue with 1 part tempera paint. Apply with a paintbrush. Picture will dry with a "wet" look.

Glitter Paint

Mix corn syrup, food coloring, and glitter. Paint on construction paper. Let dry for several days. Drawing will appear glittery and transparent.

Milk Paint

For a creamy "pastel" look, pour evaporated milk into containers. Add food coloring until desired color is reached. Use paintbrush to apply.

Egg Paint

This recipe is great to use on slick surfaces, like glass, aluminum foil, or freezer paper. Mix a little egg yolk, dry detergent, and food coloring. Paint will stick easily.

Salt Paint

For an "icy" touch to wintery pictures, mix 2 t. salt, 1 t. liquid starch, and a few drops tempera paint. Apply with paint brush.

Watercolor Cakes

Mix 1T. white vinegar and 1T. baking soda. Mixture will be fuzzy. When fizzing stops, add 1T. cornstarch and 1/2 t. corn syrup. Mixture will become thick and cakelike. Fill small plastic bottle lids adding some food coloring to each lid. Make colors as dark or light as desired. You can use the watercolors right away, if desired. If they dry, simply wet the paintbrush thoroughly and swirl it in the lid.

Peanut Butter Dough

Mix 3 1/2 c. peanut butter, 4 c. powdered sugar, 3 1/2 c. corn syrup or honey, 4 c. powdered milk. (This dough is edible, so be sure hands are washed before mixing)Mold and shape dough on waxed paper. Sculpt your creation and decorate with raisins or chocolate chips. Then eat them up! Dough can be stored in a plastic bag in the fridge.

Coffee Dough

Mix 1 c. flour, 1/2 c. salt, 1 c. used coffee grounds, and 1/2 c. cold coffee. Knead mixture on floured surface. After sculpting, allow creation to air dry. Store clay in a plastic bag.

Play Dough

Mix 1 c. flour, 1/2 c. salt, and 2 t. cream of tartar. Add 1 c. water, 1 t. vegetable oil, and food coloring. Cook in heavy skillet for about 3 minutes, stirring often. Knead dough until it becomes soft and smooth. Store dough in butter or icing tubs.

Salt & Flour Dough

Mix 2 parts salt and 1 part flour. Add water until mixture becomes doughy. Food coloring may be added to dough. This is a good recipe for beads. Shape the dough into a bead, making a hole through the center with a toothpick. Allow to air dry.

Putty

Mix 2 parts white Elmer's and 1 part liquid starch. Add food coloring if desired. Let mixture air dry. This putty bounces, stretches, and lifts pictures from newsprint. Store in an airtight container.

No-Cook Dough

Mix 2 c. flour, 1 c. salt, water, food coloring, and 2 T.oil. (You may leave out the oil if you want your art to harden)

Colored Glue

Add food coloring to white glue. Mix well. Use this mixture to outline parts of your drawing or in place of some paint.

Papier-Mache'

Mix together 1 box Knox gelatin, 3 ounces white glue, and 2 ounces water until smooth. Wet tissue paper or paper towel strips thoroughly with mixture. Place strips over your mold until you have covered it as thickly as you want. Or... Mix equal parts of liquid starch and cold water. Dip newspaper strips in mixture and apply.

Remember: If you need help collecting recycling materials for your art project, give us a call.

We may already have what you need on hand!