

Salty Shapes & Letters

Activity: Children will use a paintbrush to print letters and shapes in a salt tray.



Objective

Children will practice precision and coordination of hand muscles while using a paintbrush to form shapes and letters.

Targeted Standards

I. Physical Development

I.B.c.1. Demonstrates increasing precision, strength, coordination and efficiency when using hand muscles for play and functional tasks

Benchmark a. Shows hand control using various drawing and art tools with increasing precision

http://www.floel.org/standardsresource/standards.html#d=l&a=four_year_olds_fd

Procedures

1. Fill a tray or shallow pan with salt.
2. Provide cards with letters and shapes and stack them next to the salt tray.
3. Invite a child to form shapes and letters in the salt by using a paintbrush.
4. Demonstrate the process and show the child how to “erase” their letters and form new ones.

Materials Needed

Shallow tray or pan for holding salt

Container of table salt

Paint brush

Letter and shape cards

Checking for Understanding

Children will demonstrate their understanding of the lesson by, choosing a card and using a paintbrush to copy it in the salt tray.

Scaffolding

- To decrease the difficulty of this activity, a child may use their index finger to copy the shapes and letters in the salt.
- To increase the difficulty level of this activity, invite a child to print his name in the salt.

Extensions

- Encourage the child to identify each shape and letter they write in the salt.
- Take it outside! Provide letter cards and pencil-sized sticks and invite children to write in the sand or dirt.