



Pinecone Painting

Ages 2 to 3 years

Objective: The child builds tactile awareness and language development through pinecone paintings.

Materials needed:

Pinecones (you can get these in any seasonal fall section of any store—Wal-Mart, Target, Michael's)

White paper

Washable Tempura Paint (or substitute)

Procedures

1. Sit with your child at a small table.
2. Put the pinecones down in front of you and your child.
3. Encourage child to grab the pinecones and pick them up. Use words to describe how they may feel to your child. "Hard, sharp, round, brown" are all adjectives. Ask child: "How do they feel?"
4. Let your child explore and discover with the pinecones on their own for a little while.
5. Put one pinecone down in front of them. Teach action words to build math vocabulary skills.



Pinecone Discovery

Ages 2 to 3 years

6. While you say the words, do the actions with the pinecone to teach/show them.

- Back and forth (roll the pinecone back and forth, and say the words)
- Roll Over and Over (do as it says with the pinecone)
- If you have two different sized pinecones, teach concepts of big and small.
- Up and Down (hold up the pinecone and say the word "up", now hold the pinecone down and say the word "down" to your child)
- Ask child to repeat words after you, and encourage them to try the actions after you do them. Repeat steps above while your child uses the pinecone to show you the actions, while you tell.

7. Place the white sheet of paper in front of your child on the table. Give them a small amount of paint on a paper plate. Show them first then allow them to do on own. Roll the pinecone back and forth in paint, then on the paper; making tracks.



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8. Let your child make paint tracks with the pinecone and paint on the paper until they no longer show any interest.

Milestones to meet:

The child uses tactile awareness through pinecone exploration. The child builds language development of math concepts through visual and auditory learning. The child can demonstrate the actions they hear being directed by an adult, such as back and forth rolling of a pinecone. The child can repeat words and mimics actions of an adult. The child builds creativity and fine-motor skills through painting tracks.

Evaluation:

Did this lesson work for your child? Why or why not?