



# Tree Sponge Painting

**Ages 1 year to 2 years**

**Objective:** The child can use fine-motor and visual creativity skills by holding a sponge and using it to make prints on a tree.

## Materials needed:

- \*Large tree cutout (print from resources page) OR use a blank white sheet of paper and draw a tree
- \*Vanilla Yogurt for paint mixture-Add in 2 drops of green food coloring, stir to mix completely (ONLY use yogurt if your child is **not allergic** to it, if they are use a different substitute for green paint)
- \*Sponge (cut it into the shape of a leaf-use one of our leaves on our printable resource page as a "stencil" to help if needed)

## Procedures:

1. Have your child sit in their highchair for this activity; going shirtless for it may get messy!
2. Before hand, cut the sponge into a leaf shape!
3. Use yogurt mixture for finger paint. Put a small amount (spoonful) on a paper plate.
4. Show and do to model to your child what you are doing and making.



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Grab the leaf sponge, dip it into the yogurt paint mixture, and print it like a stamp on the tree.

5. Now encourage your child to pick up the sponge

and use to dip into the yogurt paint mixture and make a sponge print on the tree. Help their hands as necessary to hold the leaf sponge in their hand, dip it into the paint, and make a print on the tree.

6. Keep repeating and each time you make a print remember to say the words "leaf" and/or "tree" to your child to build early language development.

Always ask your child to repeat word after you.

## **Milestones to meet:**

The child can use fine-motor skills to hold and grab a sponge. The child uses hand-eye coordination through print painting. The child makes a connection to a leaf and a tree, and can repeat words after hearing them.

## **Evaluation:**

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