



Tree Sponge Painting

Ages 2 years to 3 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 at a kid-friendly table wearing old clothes 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. Model and explain 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 as necessary.

6. Ask your child open-ended thinking questions:

"What are we making? What happens to the sponge when we paint it on the tree? Why are we putting leaves on a tree? What color are the leaves?"

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 can answer questions in regards to what they are doing.

Evaluation:

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