Messy Art Ideas

**SWISH ~ Create a Color Abstract**
1. Create a paint palette of foam paint colors on a paper plate.
2. Crumple a paper towel in your hand—this will become your “paint dabber.”
3. Touch your dabber lightly onto several colors of paint.
4. SWISH your dabber over white paper and watch it make a rainbow of colors.
5. SWISH again to create a colorful textured design.

**Other Art Ideas using Swish**
a) Landscape murals on white butcher paper.
b) Art books and journals—the paint dries right away!
c) Note cards and decorative envelopes.
d) Shaving cream brushes—instead of paper towels, use shaving cream brushes.

**PITTER PATTER ~ Create a Color and Shape Abstract**
1. Create a paint palette, following Steps 1-3 in SWISH above.
2. PITTER PATTER using up and down motions onto paper, making texture patterns.
3. Repeat until a full page of colorful abstract shapes and patterns has been created!

**Other Art Ideas using Pitter Patter**
a) Rhythm Pictures—play various music styles and paint to different beats.
b) Mandalas—using Colorations® Air Dry Putty, roll some coils and little balls, then add texture by squishing leaves, stampers, screens or clay tools into the putty. Cover paper plate with glue stick, then adhere coils/balls onto plate. Using a paper towel or shaving cream brush, PITTER PATTER colors onto the surface. When finished, punch a hole in edge of plate and hang on cord.
c) Picture Frames—using Colorations® Air Dry Putty, create a design with coils and balls of putty, adding texture with leaves, stampers, or clay tools. Cover picture frame with glue stick, then adhere coils/balls onto frame. Using a paper towel or shaving cream brush, apply paint for a creative design.

**CRAYON RESIST ~ Create a Colorful Drawing**
1. Create a paint palette, following Steps 1-3 above in SWISH.
2. Create a picture with colored crayons, pressing hard to lay down lots of wax.
3. Use bright colors, especially white or yellow—these colors will “pop out.”
4. Follow PITTER PATTER, Step 2, covering your crayon picture with foam paint.
5. To polish your picture, take a clean paper towel and rub off remaining paint.

**Other Art Ideas Using Crayon Resist**
a) Invisible Messages—use white crayons to write an “invisible” message. Collect messages, then pass them out to different children. Have children PITTER PATTER paint on top to read their message and guess who wrote it.
b) Self-Portraits—create colorful self portraits by following steps 1–5 in CRAYON RESIST.
c) Masks—Fold tag board or heavy paper in half, cut out eyes, nose, etc. Exaggerate features with crayons. Paint and polish with paper towel.
d) Open Ended Art—crayon resist looks great using any theme or picture a child chooses.

**BRUSH PAINTING ~ Create a Colorful Painting**
1. Create a paint palette with lots of colors, starting with a small amount of each color.
2. Using an easel brush or “chubby” brush, paint directly on paper.
3. Paint in short strokes, laying down one color at a time.
4. Clean the brush between colors or assign one brush per color.

**Other Art Ideas using Brush Painting**
a) Note cards—small paintings look beautiful as note cards.
b) Sculptures—use Colorations® Air Dry Putty to sculpt a small figurine, then paint.
c) Michelangelo—paint underneath your desk in the style of Michelangelo when he painted the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel. Tape paper underneath your desk and lay on the floor to create, painting upside down. It’s fun and has no drips or spills!
d) Mural Art—Use large brushes and paint landscapes onto white butcher paper.
e) Q-Tip Miniatures—Use Q-tips for paint brushes and paint with dots of color.