FOAM ROLLERS ~ Make Large Texture Paintings

1. Create a paint palette, following Steps 1–3 in SWISH.
2. Using textured foam rollers, roll foam paint over large white paper in big sweeping motions.
   (Tip: for standard foam rollers place a rubber band around the foam and this will give it texture.)
3. Repeat in different directions, covering entire surface of the paper.
4. Blot off excess foam paint with paper towels.

Other Art Ideas using FOAM ROLLERS
a) Create Impressionist Style paintings using pastels and floral colors.
b) Landscape Murals—create murals combining foam rollers for the background and traditional brushes for details.
c) Special Event Signs: Welcome Signs, Congratulations, Happy Birthday—Using white butcher paper, create large signs using texture rollers for letters. These make colorful, quick and beautiful signs for special occasions.

STAMPERS/STENCILS ~ Making Stamp & Stencil Art

1. Create a paint palette, following Steps 1–3 in SWISH.
2. Using paper towels, dab paint onto stamper, creating an even layer of color on the stamper itself (if using stencils, dab paint onto stencil instead).
3. Press the painted stamper hard onto your white paper. Repeat. Create a background using SWISH or PITTER PATTER techniques.

Other Art Ideas using Stampers & Stencils
a) Note cards and decorative envelopes.
b) Masks using mask stencils.
c) Storybook Narratives—using a blank book made from paper or white paper bags, create a story by placing a different stamper image on each page then creating a story around the designs.

BIOFOAM® BAKERS DOUGH ~ Make Ornaments

1. Mix 1 cup flour, 1 cup BioColor® Foam Paint, 1/4 cup salt and approximately 1/3 cup water.
2. Mix ingredients together and knead to make a smooth texture.
3. Make 3 or more colors to work with.
4. Create dough ornaments, combining colors.
5. Bake at 200 degrees for 1-2 hours to allow ornaments to set.

Other Art Ideas using BioFoam Bakers Dough
a) Sculptures - create relief sculptures on mat board.
b) Picture Frames - create textures on cardboard picture frames.

PRINTMAKING ~ Monoprints & Marbleizing

1. Spread a little foam paint onto a non-porous surface like Plexiglas.
2. Use one hand to spread an even coat of paint until it is the size of your paper.
3. With your finger, draw a shape in the Plexiglas.
4. Place a white paper on top and rub gently.

Other Art Ideas for Printmaking
a) Butterflies: Fold a 12 x 18” piece of tag board in half. Cut to create two large butterfly wings. Squirt a dab of several colors inside the fold and press together.
b) Marbleizing on paper—place several colors of paint on a plate or tray. Swirl with a fork to mix colors into a pattern. Lay white paper on top, lift off paper and scrape off foam with paint scraper. Your marbleized paper will be dry right away.

CONCLUSION

Messy Art activities are one of the best ways to promote early childhood learning. Preschool and Kindergarten provide an especially important opportunity for hands-on, self-directed learning. As children grow and advance through elementary school, art continues to provide opportunities for mastery and learning. Art teaches critical thinking, self-expression, problem solving, individuality, creativity and self-esteem.

Messy Art experiences, those that rely on fluid and tactile art materials, provide children with the greatest reward for their efforts. Not only do children often find it exciting to “get messy” when they can’t always, but child development theorists teach us time and time again that tactile and sensory experiences are one of the ways children learn best.