

CHILDREN'S HOME SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA

Family Child Care Home Education Network (FCCHEN) Parent and Provider Resource: Activities for Distance Learning

Art Activities

The following activity will support your child's learning while they are at home. Talk to your child and ask questions as you play. As your child listens to you, your child builds language and social skills, further reinforcing the concepts you are teaching. Match activities to your child's favorite books, songs, or toys to make them more meaningful learning experiences. Visit our website at www.chs-ca.org and click on the *News and Events* tab for more learning resources.

TODDLERS - Activity: Finger Painting

What you need:

- Paper
- Surface for painting such as a table or the floor
- Newspapers
- Measuring cup
- Saucepan
- Whisk
- Muffin pan
- Spoon
- Half cup of flour
- One cup of water
- Food coloring

What to do:

- Making your own non-toxic finger paint is easy and safer for young children. This recipe from [Create Kid's Club](#) makes paint that can be stored for a week at room temperature
- To make the paint, place the saucepan over medium heat and whisk together the half cup of flour and one cup of water. Keep whisking the mixture until it starts to thicken, then turn off the heat and continue to whisk until it has the consistency of thin pudding
- Pour it into the muffin pan and allow it to cool. Place one drop of the desired food coloring in each section of the muffin pan, and stir it with a spoon. Once it has cooled it is ready to use
- Spread newspaper down on the table or floor where children will paint, and then lay the paper down and place the muffin pan of paints nearby
- Ask toddlers, "What can we do with this?" Children can dip their fingers in the paint and even taste it. Talk about the texture, temperature, and colors of the paint
- Invite children to paint on paper using their fingers. Once they are done, allow their art to dry
- Show them their pictures again once they are dry and allow them to touch the paintings and feel the difference
- Hang artwork up where children can see it and revisit their work

What the activity does:

- Provides a sensory experience that stimulates learning
- Introduces vocabulary for colors and shapes
- Practices large and small muscle development
- Promotes understanding of cause and effect
- Encourages creative expression

