Learning Experience  

Objective: For children to explore paint and various media using the sense of touch and feel

Finger Painting  

Date: ___________

Materials

Desired Paper size—At least A3 so that children have adequate space to paint on. OR Have table tops available for painting. (prints can be made later if a record or painting is desired)

Primary Colours (red, yellow, blue) Poster Paint  
(Preferably a thick washable paint) or Corn Flour paint which is thick in consistency.

Paint containers with a teaspoon to put paint onto the paper. A bucket of water and towel near by to clean hands when they've finished or nearby sink.

Early Years Learning Framework Outcomes*

Outcome 1: Children -
- are open to new discoveries through art.
- learn to confidently explore and engage with physical environments through sensory experience.

Outcome 2: Children -
- investigate and explore new ideas through investigating paints feel and texture.
- develop an understanding of diversity through different artistic methods.

Outcome 3: Children develop -
- an ability to seek out and accept new challenges and make new discoveries through different materials and textures.
- skills to engage in sensory motor skills and movement patterns through finger painting.

Outcome 4: Children -
- develop curiosity, confidence, enthusiasm through the rich inquiry based experience of finger painting.
- experiment with cause and effect, trial and motion through manipulating the paint.
- experience the benefits and pleasures of shared learning exploration and discussion while finger painting.

Outcome 5: Children
- respond verbally and non verbally to what they see, hear, touch, feel.
- experiment with paint to express ideas and make meaning through creative experiences.

Extension Ideas.

- Finger Painting using different medium such as shaving cream painting
- Colour mixing with eye droppers and coloured water
- Handprint, foot and fingerprint pictures
- Science Experiment— Colour Mixing using milk, eye droppers and dishwashing liquid

It's important to listen to children's conversations during the activity, think about what you may be able to extend on connected with the ideas they talk about together.

Instructions

1. Allow children to spoon paint onto table surface or on paper. (supervise closely, particularly younger children)
2. Allow the children to approach the paint encouraging them to see what they can do with the paint and their fingers.
3. Discuss: How it feels. What colours can you make when you mix the paint together.
4. Ensure you give children adequate time to explore

Key Learning Areas (Skills and Knowledge)

Pre-Numeracy (Mathematics)

Number: How many colours it takes to create a new colour.
Write numbers or shapes in the paint with your fingers.

Measurement: size of different peoples hands.

Literacy/Vocabulary (English)

Colours, Mixing, Creating, Slimy, Gooey, Smooth, Red, Yellow, Blue, Orange, Green, Purple, Lines, Numbers, Shapes, Wet

Children practicing writing their name and words in paint.

Health and Physical Education

Gross and Fine motor manipulations skills
Discovering different movements and their outcome
Not eating the paint (for the little ones)

Studies of Society and Environment
Discuss people who have no hands to paint with so they use their mouths or feet. Invite an artist from the “foot and mouth” painting association to paint for the children or show them some painting done by these artists.

Science

Discovering textures and how they mix on different surfaces.
Learning how colours mix with other colours to make new ones.

The Arts

Application method - using hands instead of paint brushes
Each child exploring their creative senses through art.

Technology
Use the internet to investigate who different cultures, communities and artists use hand prints and finger painting.

Linked Experiences

All painting experiences, particularly: Hand and Foot Painting

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