



Primary

Focus

Art

EXERCISE 04

Parent Objective

To foster your child's natural desire to be artistically creative....

Indirect Objective:

This activity naturally helps to strengthen the fingertips for handwriting and can also aid the development of a pincer grip.

"Our educational aim with very young children must be to aid the spontaneous development of the mental, spiritual, and physical personality..."

Dr. Maria Montessori, *The Montessori Method*



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Judy Laidlaw

View more resources at:

resources.montessori.agency

Maria Montessori's Education of the Creative Mind

Salt Art



Materials:

- Colored sidewalk chalk
- Tall, narrow clear glass vase or jar
- 2 C. measuring cup (or bowl of similar shape and size)
- ¼ C. measure
- Regular granulated table salt
- Funnel (sized for pouring into vase or jar)

Preparation:

With your child, gather and lay out the needed materials. Ideally choose a work area that can be left undisturbed and returned to whenever the child chooses. Completion of the art layers may be expected to take several days.

Instructions:

1. Invite your child to create "Salt Art."
2. Allow child to pour salt into the ¼ C. measure. (**Note:** if the store container proves difficult for him or her to pour from, transfer salt to a different container, one that he or she can independently work with.)
3. Allow child to pour the ¼ C. salt into the 2 C. measuring cup or bowl.
4. Have child choose a color of chalk.
5. Holding the chalk with his or her fingertips, the child stirs and turns it into the salt. The more the salt and chalk are stirred together, the darker the color of the salt becomes.
6. Once satisfied with the salt color created, the child can use the funnel to slowly pour it into the vase or jar.
7. Repeat as desired. The only "rule," the choice of colored chalk should differ from the previous layer's color to form layers.
8. Once the vase is fully layered, the child may choose a location to display the creation.
9. Enjoy!