

# Rain Inspired Drip and Scratch Painting

suitable for 18 months to 5 years



In our video, Susie is inspired by the concentric circles formed on a pond by the rain. Show the children the video to help them develop an awareness of their environment and learn how to look carefully at what they see. Then reinforce what they have seen by completing the project.

(Before you start making your pictures you could explore how water behaves in the rain by examining puddles or you can create the same effect by sprinkling water in a bowl or sink.)

For this activity you will need:

- Paint
- Paint Pots
- Brushes
- Straws
- Water
- Paper
- Aprons
- Table covers

(all items, except the water, are available from our website)

## Creative Processes

Make a runny paint by mixing 50:50 water and ready mixed paint or by making a thin consistency with your powder paints.

Let the children choose which colour paper and paint they want to use.

Have brushes in some of the pots of paint and straws in others.

Drip paint onto the paper from the brushes (no flicking) and straws. The children will need to put their finger over the end of straws to hold the paint in the straw. They then lift off their finger, when the straw is over paper, and the paint will drip out.

To add circles to the picture, use the end of a clean straw to draw round the drip marks. As the straw passes through other drip marks circles will be created. As more circles are made you'll see a pattern emerging onto the paper that looks similar to the patterns on water in the rain.

If the children don't make circles don't worry about it. It's the processes and children's creativity that matter not the final outcome.

## Scientific Observations

This is a great project for introducing the children to scientific observation as well as processes for making pictures.

Encourage the children to try dripping from different heights to see if the paint makes different splash marks. Observe if the splash marks are different or the same from the brush and straw. Also, notice that concentric circles do not appear on the paper as they would on water. It's all about experimenting, observing and taking notice of what happens.



Accompanying YouTube Video:  
<https://youtu.be/49ytw8aMQ0U>

Visit: [www.artfuldodgers.co.uk](http://www.artfuldodgers.co.uk) for more arty inspiration.