

Crafty Ideas: **Sunshine Fabric Paintings**

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A display of children's fabric paintings inspired by the summer sun

You will need:

- Squares of hessian
- Charcoal
- Paint (orange, yellow, red)
- Fabric medium to add to the paint
- Paintbrushes
- Mixing palettes
- Water pots

During the summer the sun gives us a wonderful range of rich reds, oranges, yellows and burnished colours.
The challenge of capturing the warmth and brilliance of its rays is an exciting stimulus for art.

Use

Use the sun as inspiration for seasonal fabric painting activities.

Make

- Encourage children to look at pictures of the sun at different times and places as stimulus for their drawing.
- Ask them to focus on shapes and colours. Inspire the children with this thought provoking poem by Wes Magee
What is.....the Sun?

The sun is an orange dinghy
Sailing across a calm sea.

It is a gold coin
Dropped down a drain in heaven.

It is a yellow beach ball
Kicked high into the summer sky.

It is a red thumb print
On a sheet of pale blue paper.

It is the gold top from a milk bottle
Floating on a puddle.
- Ask the children to draw the patterns of the sun in charcoal on the hessian.
- Then, bring the drawings to life by painting onto the fabric.

Variations:

- Create collage suns by spiraling tissue paper to create a circle.
- Change shades and colours to reds, yellows, oranges and pinks to create individual patterns.
- Draw pastel sun pictures on paper, starting from the centre of the page.
- Use oranges, reds, yellows and whites to create the patterns.

Tip

Remind children that it is very dangerous to look directly at the sun.

Display

Back display boards with a mixture of orange and red paper. Display the work, mixing up collages and paintings. Keep vertical and horizontal lines as straight as possible. Staple painted flames to the ceiling so that they hang down and create a 3D fire effect. If you have used the poem, display it nearby.

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