

DIY Spray Paint for Toddlers www.sunhatsandwellieboots.com



Art is a great way to encourage language, use fine motor skills, develop eye/hand coordination, and let creativity run wild!!

Materials Needed:

Paper – You can use a roll of paper, newspapers, copy paper, paper bags, whatever you have around.

Duct tape/Clothespins – Something to secure the paper to a location.

Squirt bottles – anything works. It can be something smaller, bigger; it could be a ketchup/mustard-type bottle that you squeeze instead of squirt.

Paint – I use washable paints watered down very thin so they can be squirted out. You could use three colors – red, blue, and yellow to make more colors. You could use **glow in the dark colors** and shine a black light on it so that it glows

Scissors – for cutting tape, making items smaller if need be, etc.

How-to: Once you have all of your materials together, you can begin to create. Set up the bottles where your child can reach them and explore. You may have to model how to use the bottles, where to aim. Have more paper handy so that when your child requests or gestures, you can respond and acknowledge their want. You can keep these up to dry, to use a reminder every time you go outside.

Developmentally this activity encourages language development by giving you opportunities to use descriptive language, action words, and silly sounds. Eye/hand coordination and fine motor development are encouraged too; with pulling the ‘trigger’ on the squirt bottle, aiming at the paper, missing the paper...squirted their hands, if they are not wearing shoes squirting their feet – that can tickle, be fantastic on their skin. Cause and effect – mixing the colors to get a new color, squirting too much in one place, and the paper gets too thin.

Remember – *when we model and your child imitates, it is the beginning of understanding communication. When we imitate them, we tell them their ideas and choices are powerful, encouraging them to want to do more.*

The link below has examples of how to set up for this activity

[Sun Hats & Wellie Boots: Spray Paint for Toddlers \(sunhatsandwellieboots.com\)](http://www.sunhatsandwellieboots.com)

You can also use watercolors and paintbrushes, thicker paint and sponges, throw sponges at the paper with paint, throw small balls dipped in the paint at the paper – Use your imagination and what you have on hand to create an enjoyable and memorable experience outside with your child(ren).

[Cotton Ball Painting \(thechaosandtheclutter.com\)](http://thechaosandtheclutter.com)



Cotton Ball
THROW PAINTING

