




# Painting Tips with Children




Before you dive into painting with your child, here are a few tips that can make it a little easier to have fun and clean up afterwards.

- Don't forget to cover your work surface before you begin and put on old clothes or painting smocks.
- You can put a few drops of dish washing soap in water to aid in cleanup if there are "accidents." There are also spill-free paint cups available. Try addition a drop or two of clothes softener in the bucket water you use for the brushes-this helps later when cleaning them!
- You can also keep a tub of warm soapy water handy to dip the kid's hands in if they get a little carried away with their painting. That way you can get the paint off their hands before they have a chance to paint walls, carpet, etc. This works especially well with finger painting type projects.

## Other Fun Stuff!



### Substitute Brush Ideas



Cotton Balls  
Fingers  
Toes  
Rags  
Toothpick  
Twigs or sticks  
Feathers  
Toothbrush  
String or yarn  
Q-Tips or Cotton swabs





### Other Painting Tools



Blow Paints  
Squirt bottle  
Eyedropper  
Old or Cheap Toys

### Printing/Stamping/Stenciling Objects



Fruit or vegetables  
Corks  
Cookie cutters  
Wood blocks  
Leaves  
Textured Fabric  
Lace  
Doilies  
Styrofoam Shapes  
Body Puff  
Loofa  
Natural Sponges  
Stamps  
Stencils  
Plastic lids from containers (to make circles)  
Wheels from toy cars  
Sponges

### Paint Variations

Watercolor  
Tempera Paint  
Paint Sticks  
Add Water to Thin Paint  
Add Flour or Starch to Thicken Paint  
Add Sand  
Add Glitter  
Add Fake Snow  
Add Dirt  
Add Whole Spices (Like Cloves or Peppercorn)

Acrylic  
Poster Paint  
Wet Chalk

