

Stone + Water Painting

Materials:

- Stones
- Water
- Cups
- Paint Brushes
- Towels

At the beginning of the year, it is important to offer some quiet and calming activities in the classroom with space for one or two children. This allows space and a calming activity for those that may be feeling overwhelmed by the new space or new faces. Another reason this activity is well suited for the beginning of the year because it process (vs. product) based. This means that there is no correct or incorrect way to accomplish the activity, leaving room for more open-ended outcomes and reducing anxiety.

Place the a stone on each towel and offer a cup of water and paint brush nearby. It is that simple! The water will make dark marks on the rock and dry up within a few minutes.

Look and Listen for Learning

- Creativity
- Curiosity
- Material Properties
- Use of Tools

Teaching Tips

- This is a great activity to offer indoors at the art studio area or outdoors in a quiet area on the playground.
- Give consideration to how you layout this activity. Will the spots for each child to sit be facing one another, facing toward a window to allow of observation of nature, or in a circle to encourage socialization? Try multiple setups and see what benefits they each offer.