



Thinking Abilities and General Knowledge Activity for 36 to 42 Months

Colorful Nature Collages

This activity encourages children to use different art media and materials in a variety of ways.

Materials:

- Markers
- Glue
- Natural materials (leaves, berries, tree bark, grass, seashells)
- Paper bags
- Poster board or heavy-duty cardboard

What to do:

1. Write the name of a color with a matching marker on each of the paper bags. Select colors found in nature: brown, green, red, gray, black.
2. Invite the child to select a paper bag. Explain she will go on a nature walk to find materials in nature that are the same color as marked on the bag. Encourage the child to collect leaves, twigs, rocks, berries, and tree bark to put in her bag.
3. Give the child a piece of construction paper and glue.
4. Invite her to create a colorful nature collage using the materials she found on the hike.
5. Allow the collage to dry and display once the child has finished gluing her materials to the construction paper.
6. Label the collage: Sarah's Red Collage, Jimmy's Green Collage.

Variation:

Put the leftover materials in a pile and encourage the child to make another collage. Invite the child to create a collage of similar textures, shapes, or sizes.

