



Footprint Painting



Type: [Crafts](#) Skills: [Play & Creativity](#)

With Footprint Painting, you're going to be able to show babies how to paint with their feet by using tempura paints and butcher paper.



What We Learn

Footprint Painting is a wonderful opportunity for infants to learn. Babies learn cause and effect when they see that their feet are making prints on the paper. They learn tactile and sensory skills from touching the paint and feeling how paint feels on their skin and in between their toes. They also develop language, because adults are guiding the infants at all times and engaging them throughout the activity. Words such as wet, squishy, cold, gooey can help babies learn language and connect them to what they are experiencing.

Supply List

- Tempura paint
- Paper plates or aluminum tins
- Butcher paper
- Masking tape
- Bin of water and soap

How-To

If you do this activity indoors, you'll want to first put down a drop cloth or other covering to protect your floor.

Cut a long sheet of butcher paper, which will become the canvas for the children's footprints. If you don't have butcher paper, you can simply cut open brown paper grocery bags. Tape down the paper so it doesn't slide all over the place when the children step on it.

Pour a few dabs of paint into aluminum tins or paper plates. Place the plates at one end of the butcher paper. On the opposite end of the butcher paper, place a small plastic wash bin filled with soapy water.

Remove each baby's shoes and socks and gently acclimate them to the paint by slowly putting some paint on their feet. Allow babies the time to explore the paint and how it feels.

Next, have each child walk over the paper, leaving footprints as they walk. Babies should be held by child care providers for them to experience this activity safely. Be sure to pay attention to their responses and cues about

how they feel when doing this activity. Older infants can walk through the activity by themselves with help from adults so they don't slip. Remember that no kids should be allowed to walk through the paint or paper without assistance.

Older kids can help in preparing for this activity. But you'll probably want to set up another area for older kids to participate in this activity. Make sure you monitor kids because older kids have a tendency to want to run across the paper, which is not safe for them because the paint is slippery.