

# Sponge Painting

## Primary Objectives

8b. Follows directions

## Why It's Important

As your child learns to follow oral directions, it sometimes helps her to see a brief demonstration of the desired action. When you describe and model the action together, your child hears and sees what is expected of her and can attempt to accomplish the task on her own.

## Materials

Smock; small trays or plates for paint; paint (2–4 colors); small sponges of varying shapes

## What You Do

1. Put a small amount of paint on the plates, designating one plate for each color. Spread the sponge shapes out on the table so that your child can explore them.
2. Invite your child to put on her smock and paint with the sponges.
3. Explain each direction, demonstrating as you go. First you will choose a sponge. Next, dip it in the paint. Then press it on the paper.
4. Repeat the directions as she attempts to do each step. Offer positive encouragement as she paints. *You chose blue paint and made four stamps with your sponge on the paper.*
5. Remember to keep each instruction simple and short. Continue with basic instructions during the cleanup process as well.
6. Encourage your child to share his artwork with a family member. Invite her to explain the steps she followed to make her painting.