



Wind Painting

Invite children to sponge-paint kites for a decorative display.

Cover a workspace with newspaper, and make a copy of the pattern for each child. Help children cut out their kites and then lay them on the newspaper. Squeeze tempera paint on paper plates and provide sponges cut into simple shapes. Show children how to sponge-paint a pattern on their kites, and let dry. You might have children add yarn and ribbons to their kite for a 3-D effect. Cover a bulletin board with blue paper and attach fluffy cotton ball “clouds.” Then attach children’s kites for a beautiful windy-day display.

Standards

- Knows differences between art materials, techniques, and processes

Paper Bag Kites

Here’s a quick-and-easy way to make your own kites.

Give each child a paper lunch bag and help children fold down the top about three inches, without tearing the corners. Let children decorate the bags with stickers and markers, or by gluing on a reduced-sized copy of the kite pattern. Then punch four holes near the top of the bag, one in each corner (cover the holes with reinforcers for durability). Tie four 6-inch lengths of yarn to the holes, one in each, and tie the free ends together. Finally, tie one 8-inch length of yarn to the knotted end. Then take your kites outside on a breezy day! Show children how to fly the kites by holding on to the long string and running, with the kite flying behind them.

Standards

- Knows the effects of forces in nature, such as wind
- Knows that objects can be moved in space in a number of different ways

Five Flying Kites

Practice rhyming sounds and counting skills with a kite poem!

Make five copies of the pattern, cut out, and let children decorate. Attach with removable adhesive to a bulletin board, or attach a small magnet to the back of each kite and use on your chalkboard or white board. As you recite the poem below, remove one kite when you come to the phrase *take one down*, and then pause before the number word.

Standards

- Identifies rhymes and rhyming sounds
- Knows that the quantity of objects can change by taking away objects

Five flying kites, then it started to pour.

*Take one down, and now there are **four**.*

Four flying kites, one got stuck in a tree.

*Take one down, and now there are **three**.*

Three flying kites, then away one flew.

*Take one down, and now there are **two**.*

Two flying kites, one’s string came undone.

*Take one down, and now there is **one**.*

One flying kite that just wants to play.

I think I’ll go fly a kite today!



Book Links

Curious George Flies a Kite by Margret Rey (Houghton Mifflin, 1958). Everyone’s favorite monkey has an adventure with a powerful kite.

The Kite Festival by Leyla Torres (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2004). When Fernando and his family accidentally come upon a kite festival, they build their own to join the fun.

Kite Flying by Grace Lin (Alfred A. Knopf, 2002). A girl tells how her family builds and flies a kite.