

ART ACTIVITIES

TO STAY CREATIVE AT HOME

Scratch Art

Try this simple and fun activity for children of all ages.

Start by making your scratch papers and then scratch away to reveal colourful backgrounds. You will find you probably have most of the supplies to get started at home.

For this activity you will need:

- **Paper** (cut small, heavy stock works best)
- **Oil pastels**
- **Black paint**
- **A drop of dishwashing liquid** (optional)
- **Foam brush or sponge**
- **Scratching tool** (paperclip, skewer, toothpick, fork)

For material substitutes and more information, please read the last page.



Redland Art Gallery

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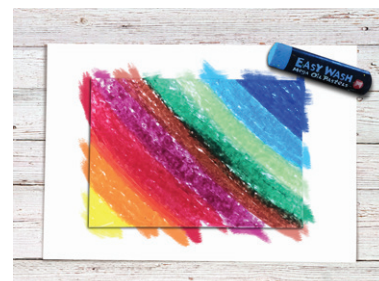
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1. Place your paper on top of a bigger sheet of white paper as you will be colouring and painting the edges too.



2. Using oil pastels, create some colourful backgrounds, covering the entire area and leaving no white space.

Use a variety of bright colours and try alternating the colours as it will give you the best effects when scratched.

If you are doing it with little ones you may need to help cover the white spaces once they have finished their drawings.



3. Some of you may really like your oil pastel drawings and might not want to cover them with paint. That's perfectly fine, save that special one for display and keep creating more colourful backgrounds.

Having a few on the go is a good idea too so you get to experiment scratch art on a few pieces at the same time.



4. Using black paint with a drop of detergent mixed in, cover your entire background with a layer of paint using a foam brush or sponge.

Let it dry completely.



5. Now using a scratching tool of your choice scratch out lines or drawings.

We used paperclips, skewers, toothpicks and forks and each created their own special effects.



6. You can also try using the paper backdrops you used back in step 1 to make some self-portraits in frames.

Get creative and have fun!



Materials

Paper

Heavy stock thick paper is best for this activity. Copy paper will still work well, just be gentle as you scratch away.

We cut our A4 paper in four smaller rectangles, easier for little hands to manage. Why not try different shapes?

Oil pastels substitute

If you don't have oil pastels handy you can also use crayons as they work too!

Another substitute is coloured pencils and a candle. Once your background is coloured with the coloured pencils, rub the entire background with a white candle to give it a wax layer coating for the scratch art to work.



Paint

We used black poster paint but any water based acrylic will work fine too.

If you don't have black paint on hand, you can also use a black oil pastel/crayon to cover your background before scratching away!



Have fun and share your creations with us by tagging
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