

Episode 130: "Quiz Show III: Hiccups" - Activity 30

On a sunny, warm day, pick out a large portion of concrete sidewalk or driveway on which to water paint. Provide your child with a paintbrush and access to "agua" (water.) Encourage your child to paint with "agua" and then watch to see what happens to the paintings. Discuss what he/she observed and what he/she thinks happened to the "agua" that was used to paint pictures. Note: Initially, many young children will be more occupied with using lots of water to paint than with painting and waiting to see what happens. So ample opportunities to explore and paint with water may be needed before observations of a scientific nature can be made. Encourage your child to use the term "agua" while painting. Your child may want to paint and then return later to check the paintings. This technique provides the opportunity for young children to form hypotheses regarding what happened to their paintings. The activity can be extended by testing the varying hypotheses. Note: Be sure to check the temperature of the concrete so that children are not "burned" if they stand barefoot, sit, or kneel on it. Also, water painting on concrete sidewalks tends to be very hard on paintbrushes. You will not want to use brand-new or good brushes for this activity.



