

Paint and Pop: Abstract Butterflies



Supplies needed :

- canvas, I will be using an 11x14, you can choose a different size but I would suggest no smaller than an 8x10.
- Acrylic paints (White, Black, color of choice and a color a couple of shades darker than your choice color. For example, for the blue wings I used a light blue and a dark blue.)
- Two paint brushes (one small and one big)
- Palette for paints (egg cartons work great!)
- Washcloth or paper towels (This will get paint on it)
- Cup/jar of water(this will get paint on it, old yogurt cups work great!)
- Optional: trash bag/cover for surrounding areas
- Optional: A soda or your favorite drink

Steps for before the meeting:

1. Find a clean and clear space to paint, cover the area with a trash bag or other cover to prevent paint from getting on the surface.
 2. Have all your supplies at your station organized in a way that feels comfortable to you.
 3. If your paint bottle has plastic wrap, remove all plastic wrap.
 4. Optional: Prepare your egg carton with your paint, you will want one of every color. If you do this step, do not do it any earlier than 5-10 minutes before we start painting as the paint will begin to dry. If you do, you may want to cover the egg carton with plastic wrap.
- I will be prepping my egg carton during the meeting with the 4-H Members.

A special thanks to Allie Jensen for providing this activity and to Two Rivers 4-H Club for the idea!

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Instructions:

1. Paint your entire canvas the color you want for your wings. You can add white and a darker shade of your color to add variation. (If you don't have a darker shade, add just a small dip of your brush of black and mix it in with your color. Keep doing it till you get the shade you want.) Allow your canvas to dry almost all the way. If you feel like your paint is not spreading, add more water to your brush.
2. Add your thicker black lines, this is like the edge of the butterfly wings. If you are struggling with the shape, remember this is abstract so it doesn't have to be exact but you can look at butterfly images to help you decide the shape of your wings.
3. Now add some more black lines to fill in the wings, if you have empty spaces you can fill them with random black lines to create the illusion of a wing behind. Allow the black paint to dry until it's fully dry or close to.
4. The last step is to add white dots along the outside of your wings!

Remember this is your interpretation of a butterfly wing so it does not have to look like the example! Have fun and make it your own!



Examples:

