Activity description and self-learning manual

Activity: Color 3 shapes in two colors each | Creativity & imagination | 3 years

Skill development milestone

By the age of three, children have officially entered Piaget's preoperational period, the hallmark of which is the ability to use symbols and representational thought (e.g., have one thing — like a word, drawing, or item) to represent something else (e.g., like the letters "horse," or picture of a horse.

The three-year old discovers that he can place blocks in an arrangement, or scribble lines on a paper in way that represents an object or action. Children this age begin to create with intention — purposefully drawing a monster or a flower.

With these newfound representational abilities, children's imaginations become boundless! They love pretend games and have a natural tendency to fantasize, experiment, and explore. They are fascinated with magic and struggle to distinguish between fantasy and reality. However, their creative drive ignites a desire to learn and supports intellectual development across all subjects. Thus, it is the perfect time to support the development of divergent thinking—where children generate unique solutions and make new connections without being tied to "the" one right answer or way of doing things (convergent thinking). Supporting divergent thinking means providing activities that allow for child appropriate inquiry, reflection, wondering, curiosity, and even supported confusion. Divergent thinking, and hence creativity and creative problem solving, are more than art — it is thinking, predicting, imagining, and creating.

The children are said to be at the pre-schematic stage. This stage is typical of children between the ages of 2 to 4.

Drawings become more complex, although they are usually unrealistic. Children will tend to use their favorite colors, rather than represent objects in accurate colors. Drawings of people are quite simple with few features. Objects in drawings float in space. They are not anchored. "Tadpole Figure People" are drawn with a large head on a small body with extended arms. Interior and exteriors are shown at the same time.

Activity description

The child needs to color three shapes: a triangle, a square and a circle. The child is required to use at least 2 unique colors in each shape while coloring.

You can draw a large triangle, a large square and a large circle on a sheet of paper. Give the child at least 2 crayons of different colors and ask him/her to color each of the shapes with at least 2 colors each. Do not divide the shape into 2 or 3 regions to fill with different colors as the idea is to encourage the child to use two colors in same shape independently. It is not important for the child to adhere to the boundary of the shape precisely and some color extending beyond the boundaries is acceptable.

Do this exercise as playing session with the child for a few days. Your child can experiment with different colors and have fun. When you feel that the child is satisfied with his/her output, you should take a picture of the artwork.

The image should be submitted as an entry as per submission guidelines. You may share the artwork with family, relatives & close friends as desired by you. Or post the videos on social media, if you wish, with the hash tag #KidExDIYChallenge or #KidExDIYNationalChallenge.

Submission guidelines

- 1. You have to send the image of a drawing colored by your child
- 2. Keep the total file size less than 20 MB
- 3. You can upload the files(s) at https://www.kid-ex.com/diy-nc (if total file size > 20 MB)
- 4. You can mail the file(s) to us at info@kid-ex.com (if total file size < 20 MB)

- 5. Please mention child's name, registered contact number & activity number in mail subject while submitting the file (Example: Veehan Saraf, 9654138862, Activity 1)
- 6. Kindly ensure you have registered for the event for us to assess the submission. If not registered, please visit https://www.kid-ex.com/diy-reg to register. New registrations allowed till 15th May.

Self-learning manual

Common mistake and things to keep in mind in this activity are:

- 1. Child is not in the right mindset while learning. They will learn and enjoy the process if they are in a happy mood.
- 2. The child is not holding the crayon or pencil correctly. It is the key to drawing and coloring.
- 3. The child lacks enthusiasm for colors and is not wanting to experiment with multiple color crayons.
- 4. The parent gets discouraged after initial "non-visually appealing" outcome as per "grown-up standards".

Key coaching tip to excel in this exercise is that first introduce the child to colors. Help the child appreciate the beauty of multiple colors. Get the child interested to hold the colors himself/herself in his/her hands. Be mindful to coach the kid to never take the color in their mouths or body parts.

As the child starts holding to colors, guide the child to correct the way of holding the pencil or crayon etc. Let the child get the grip 50%+ correct and get started with the artwork rather than over-emphasizing on the perfect grip.

Encourage the child to use all the colors rather than stick to one color or color within the confines of the shape. Clap/celebrate/encourage the child for every artwork.

Guide them to try and keep the colors within the boundary after the child has become comfortable with the above & has started to enjoy the same. Output with 90%+ precision / boundary adherence is very acceptable at this stage.

They should see this activity as a relaxing and fun way to express themselves. Encourage them to observe colors, lines, perspective, shape and form. They can learn about various colors, shades and hues through this activity. Coloring is an excellent medium of expression. Children often express their personality through drawing and coloring.

Do not be discouraged if the child does not get it right at first.

Key benefits of this exercise are:

- 1. Stimulates creativity: A child can make both a creative and/or imaginary world in his/her mind before drawing the picture on the sheet
- 2. Self-expression: Some children like to express themselves through words, while some use the form art.
- 3. Improves handwriting: Children need hand strength and dexterity to manipulate a pencil on a paper. Their grip on the crayon or pencil also affects their penmanship.
- 4. Hand eye coordination: Coloring diagrams require your kids to color within the specified area.
- 5. Relaxation and patience: It allow your children to be relaxed and comfortable while creating a piece of art.
- 6. Sense of accomplishment: When child finishes coloring a page or drawing something, he/she has completed a heavy work.
- 7. Focus: Children who spend their time coloring and drawing have better concentration, observation and focus skills.
- 8. Knowledge: Coloring or drawing a picture can help your children to recognize line, perspective, color, hue, shape and form. Your child also learns to recognize patterns.
- 9. Therapeutic: Coloring and sketching is proven therapeutic for some kids, especially if they do it frequently. They vent their feelings, frustrations and other emotions though their artworks.

Entry evaluation guidelines

The maximum point for this activity is 10. Every entry would be rated as either:

- 1. Master (M): 100% score
 - a. The child has colored all 3 shapes with at least 2 colors in each shape & with >90% adherence to shape's boundary.
- Intermediate (I): 80% score
 - a. The child has colored 3 shapes with at least 2 colors in each shape & with no adherence to shape's boundary.
 - b. The child has colored 2 shapes with at least 2 colors in each shape & with >90% adherence to shape's boundary.
- 3. Beginner (B): 50% score
 - a. The child has colored 1 shape with at least 2 colors in each shape & with >90% adherence to shape's boundary.
 - b. The child has colored 3 shapes with only 1 color in anyone shape & with no adherence to shape's boundary.
- 4. Not applicable (NA): 0% score
 - a. All other submission cases.
 - b. No submission.

For any queries, you may Whatsapp us at +91-7303755886 or email us at info@kid-ex.com.

About KidEx

KidEx is a company founded by Kapish Saraf & Amritanshu Kumar (IIT Kharagpur & IIM Calcutta alumnus). KidEx aims to create a platform to enable holistic & comprehensive development of every child by partnering with their parents in a logistically convenient manner for the parents. KidEx offers multiple extra-curricular activity classes for kids in physical & digital form (basis screen time guidelines) to enable child's holistic development. Live classes include: Chess, Arts, Mandarin, Spanish, French, German, Guitar, Movie-Making. Upcoming classes include: Academics, Robotics, Coding, Dramatics, multiple Dance & Music, Social Etiquette etc. KidEx will offer all learning solutions to parents under one umbrella. KidEx would soon launch a suite of digital products aimed at making child-raising easier & more fun for parents.

About KidEx Do-It-Yourself National Challenge

The event is an effort to spread awareness regarding need for all rounded development of the child. This is also, designed keeping in mind the current external scenarios where lockdown/no lockdown, social distancing practices would continue & schools/colleges might be shut for a few months which would require parents to find non-screen time learning opportunities for the child while demanding lesser time for parents allowing them some breathing space for themselves.

The event is open to all Indian citizens in India or abroad across age groups of 3 to 17 years. Basis the submitted entries, for every age, a leader board would be created & declared.

Prizes & certificates

We will conduct two versions of the event for all interested parents. Parents can decide whether they want their child to participate in the paid version or the free version of the event. Entry charge for paid version of the event is INR 500 for every child.

Paid version participants would be eligible for:

- 1. Prizes for winners across all age category
 - a. Number of winners linked to number of paid version participants
 - b. 50% of registration fees to be distributed as prize to winners
- 2. Winner & participation certificates
- 3. Assessment score for every submitted entry & leader board position summary

Free version participants would be eligible for:

1. Assessment score for every submitted entry

Even participants interested in paid version would be required to pay the amount after 7th May allowing them opportunity to participate first & then, decide.