



Foam painting

The children have the opportunity to make and discover the properties of different kinds of foam. They paint with foam, using their hands or spoons.

Early painters have fun painting with the coloured foam as they squirt, spoon and shape it.

More confident painters work together to make a large foam painting on a play surface outside.

What you need

Several bowls of shaving foam and foam made by whisking together a small amount of washing-up liquid, a small amount of water and drops of food colouring; spoons; icing bags; bowl of warm water

for washing hands; soap; paper towels; aprons; digital camera.

What to do

- Before the start of this session, check with parents and carers for any allergies to shaving foam or washing-up liquid. If possible, choose a warm summer's day for this activity.
- Put on aprons and show the children the bowls of assorted foam and ask them to feel the texture of the foam, describing its appearance and smell. Ask the children if

all of the foams feel the same and to describe any differences between them. Invite them to look closely at the foam made from washing-up liquid and water and ask if they can see that it is made from lots of bubbles.

- Add food colouring to the shaving foam. Encourage the children to explore the properties of the foam by standing it in peaks, blowing it, putting it on the palms of their hands and turning their hands over. Does the foam fall off? Can they change the shape of the foam?
- Tell the children that you want them to experiment in painting with the foam on any areas outside, such as the play surface, fence,

Learning objectives

Stepping Stones

- Begin to describe the texture of things. **(CD)**
- Work creatively on a large or small scale. **(CD)**
- Respond to comments and questions, entering into a dialogue about their creations. **(CD)**

Early Learning Goals

- Explore colour, texture, shape, form and space in two or three dimensions. **(CD)**
- Respond in a variety of ways to what they see, hear, touch and feel. **(CD)**