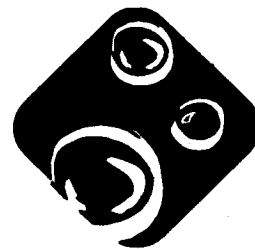


Impressionist Bubbles

This activity provides students with a bubble painting to admire, examine, and explore. *Impressionist Bubbles* combines art, science, and math for a multi-level learning experience.

Curriculum Connections

Impressionist Bubbles gives children an opportunity to combine visual art (creating a bubble print) with physical science (understanding how the mixture of paint and bubbles captures the transfer of an impression that lasts for only a few moments in time).



Vocabulary

- impression:** an image that is left behind
diameter: the length of a straight line through the center of a circle
tessellation: repeated shapes fitted together to form a pattern like a mosaic
froth: to cause foam

Materials Needed

- straws, at least 1 per student
- cups, 1 for each color
- tempera paint, in a variety of colors
- bubble solution (see recipe)
- trays, pie pans, or shallow baking pans
- newspaper
- paper, stiff paper works best, 1 per student
- 1/4 measuring cup
- a tablespoon

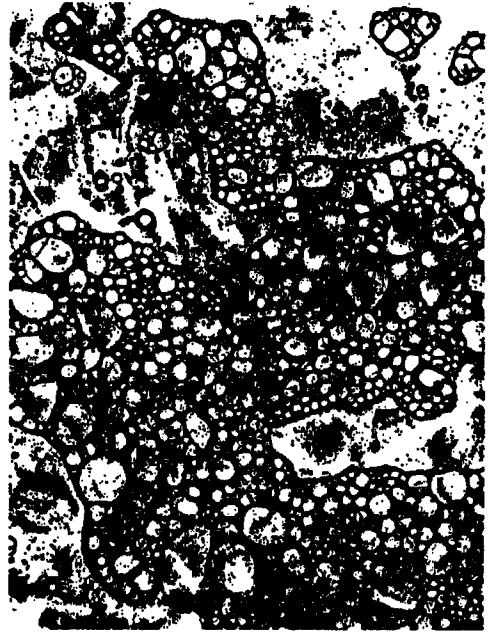
Teacher Preparation

- ① Cover tables with newspaper for easier clean up.
- ② To make the paint and bubble mixture: mix 1/4 cup of paint with 1 tablespoon bubble solution. Stir with a straw.

- ③ Set cups of bubble mixture in trays to contain the overflow. The overflow can be poured back into cup.
- ④ You may wish to prepare the bubble and paint solution ahead of time for younger students. Older students can mix their own.

Activity Directions

- ① After set up, gently blow through the straws to froth up the bubble mixture, making the bubbles foam above the cup rim.
- ② When the froth is at the desired level, place the paper on the bubble foam. This transfers the bubble image to the paper. Carefully lift the paper up to view the bubble impressions. If there are bubbles on the paper let them pop so that they can leave their images behind.
- ③ If the bubble impression is too light, try stirring the mixture. If it's still too light, add more paint for a darker impression.
- ④ On the same paper make several impressions using different colors. Observe how the colors mix. What colors can you make?
- ⑤ Lay flat to dry.



Extensions

FOR GRADE LEVELS K-5

- Compare the patterns in the print to patterns in nature. Some examples are caked mud and honeycombs.
- What examples of tessellation can you find at school and in the Museum?
- Cover entire paper with bubble impressions. Draw a scene over the dried bubble impressions with markers.

FOR GRADE LEVELS K-2

- Count the bubble prints on your page.
- Which one is the largest?
- Which one is the smallest?

FOR GRADE LEVELS 3-5

- Can you find any tessellations in your print?
- What is the diameter of the largest impression?
- What is the diameter of the smallest impression?

FOR GRADE LEVELS 2-5

- While looking at your bubble impressions, let your imagination wander. Write a story or poem to go with the images you find.

Museum Exhibits

Bubbalogna

Artworks 2!