

Colored Pasta Instructions



DESCRIPTION

Make brightly colored pasta for hands on toddler math activities that will reinforce counting, recognizing numbers, number representation, sorting and learning about patterns.

MATERIALS

- Pasta of Various Shapes (Bowtie, Macaroni, Fusilli (corkscrew), Shells, Penne, Rotelle)
- Plastic ziplock bags
- Alcohol
- Food Color of various shades

OTHER MATERIALS

- Measuring Teaspoon
- Small dish about 2" x 2" to mix alcohol and colors
- Coffee stir or use the teaspoon
- Waxed Paper
- Paper Towels
- Cookie sheets or large container
- Gloves are recommended for adults and art smock or old shirt for child. It will stain clothes.

STEPS

1. Place one cup of pasta in a ziplock bag. Mix types of pasta or make each type a different color.
2. Put 1 Tablespoon of Alcohol in small container and drop 8-10 drops of food color into alcohol. Mix with coffee stir or the teaspoon.
3. Pour into ziplock bag and zip close securely. Shake gently and turn bag over a few times to spread color. Let sit on a paper towel for about 10 min, turn bag over and let sit another 10 minutes.
4. For deeper color add another 10 minutes. Do not leave in bags for several hours.
5. Place waxed paper on cookie sheet. Open ziplock and carefully pour out the colored macaroni, spread out in single layer for faster drying and discard bag.
6. Let dry thoroughly before putting into container or bag for storage.
7. Double the alcohol/food coloring if putting two cups into the ziplock.
8. Repeat for other colors.