

Crystal Painting



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1900 Dalrymple Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70808

Knock Knock Children's Museum is a community spark for engaging, playful learning experiences that inspire and support lifelong learning.

Crystal Painting

Age Level: 3 and up | Learning Zone: Art Garden
Subject: Crystal Painting | Lesson Duration: 15 minutes

[WATCH THE VIDEO LESSON HERE!](#)

Materials Needed:

- Epsom salt (do not eat)
- paintbrush
- dark paper
- cup
- magnifying glass
- water

Louisiana Standards:

VA-CE-E1, VA-CE-E3, VA-CE-E4, VA-CE-E5, VA-CE-E6, VA-CE-H1, VA-CE-H3, VA-CE-H5,
VA-AP-E4

Louisiana's Birth to 5 Early Learning & Development Standards:

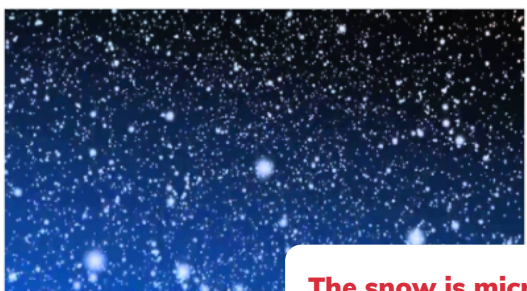
AL1, AL2, AL3, AL4, CC2, LL2, LL7, PM2

History or Vocabulary:

We will focus on **microscopic** and **macroscopic** images of objects. The prefix **micro-** means very small and the suffix **-scopic** means viewing. The term **microscopic** means that you are viewing an object that is extremely small. You will not be able to see all the details of a **microscopic** object without using a magnifying glass or a microscope.

The term **macroscopic** means just the opposite, that you are viewing an object up close. The prefix **macro-** means large, so the viewer can see a large, up-close version of the image.

We will be painting with Epsom salt and water which is essentially painting with crystals. You will then use your magnifying glass to view the **microscopic** crystals **macroscopically**. Your creations may even look like snow crystals!



The snow is microscopic in this picture.



This is a macroscopic picture of a snowflake. Notice how you can see all the details.

Directions:

- Get out an empty cup and find your paintbrush.
- Pour your Epsom salt into the cup. Then fill up the container that held the Epsom salt with water and pour into the cup. You will have equal parts Epsom salt and water.
- Mix the Epsom salt and water together with a spoon or your paintbrush. Then put your paintbrush into the mixture.
- Take out a dark piece of paper and begin painting using your Epsom salt mixture as paint.
- Wait one hour for your picture to dry. Take out your magnifying glass to view the crystals macroscopically. How does it look different? Can you see the crystals forming?



Step One



Step Two

Step Three



Step Four

