

Acorn Painting

All Ages

Acorn painting checks all the boxes as a fabulous nature art activity. It begins with a nature walk to find acorns. The painting is an active, easy-to-do art project. The result, a wonderful piece of abstract art. It is not painting acorns, but painting with acorns. It is an activity everyone will want to do over and over again.



Supplies

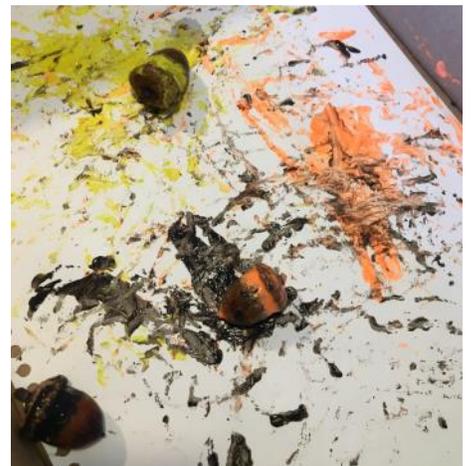
- * A handful of acorns with caps
- * Tempera paint (but acrylic will work, too)
- * Muffin tin, egg carton, or small bowls for the paint
- * Spoons – one per colour
- * Paper– bond will do, but art paper is better
- * Shallow cardboard box or a cake tin. Higher sides mean fewer painted acorns escape.

Instructions

1. Gather all your materials. Be sure the acorns are brushed free of dirt.
2. If needed, cover the work surface to protect it from painting mishaps.
3. Place a sheet of paper in your shallow box or baking dish. Tape the paper in place if it slides about when the box is shaken back and forth.
4. Put some paint in the muffin tin sections—a different colour in each sections.



5. Drop your acorns in the paint and use a spoon to be sure the acorn is coated with paint.
6. Spoon the paint-covered acorns onto the paper in the box, one colour at a time, which makes the activity last longer or mix it up by adding acorns several colours at once.
7. Lift the box and tilt it this way and that so the acorns roll around. They will leave painted trails and create interesting designs on the paper. You can roll the paint-covered acorns around as little or as much as you like to get the look you want.



Try walnuts, pinecones, chestnuts in their spiky husks or good old fashioned marbles. Use a large box and big sheets of paper to make your own wrapping paper.