

Discovery Day Week 6: Make Your Own Chalk!

This week we are learning how to create our own chalk using cornstarch and water! Below are some instructions from the virtual summer programmers on how to create your chalk and some fun activities that you can engage once you have made your chalk!

1. Make Your Own Chalk

Materials:

- Cornstarch
- Water
- Food Colouring
- Baking Molds
 - OR toilet paper rolls, paper towel rolls, small container, etc.
- Waxed Paper
- Spoon
- Tape
- Funnel



Instructions:

- Gather your supplies
- Prepare the molds: If you're using tube molds, cover one side with masking tape to keep the chalk from leaking out. To make extra sure that the mixture does not leak, you can put a piece of wax paper over one of the sides of the roll and then taping it. Line your chosen molds with wax paper, making sure the waxed side is facing up.
- Mix the cornstarch and water. Pour 1 cup of water into 3 cups of cornstarch into a mixing bowl. Stir so that the mixture has a thick, smooth consistency. Separate the mixture into smaller bowls, one for each color of chalk you want to make.
- Add food coloring. Use a few drops of food coloring to dye the mixtures in the different bowls. Stir each one well so that the color gets fully incorporated.
- Pour the chalk mixtures into molds using a funnel. Cover the molds with wax paper.
- Let the chalk dry. Wait 12 hours before removing the chalk from the molds. This chalk is completely natural and biodegradable!

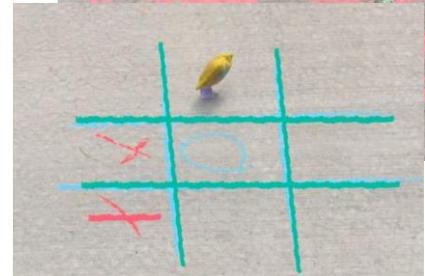
***Once your chalk is set, there are lots of fun activities that you can do with it!
We have listed a few below!***

2. Chalk Activities

- **Self Portrait:** As you lay down on the pavement (your driveway, a sidewalk, etc!) have a family member trace around your body and then you can decorate it to look just like you!
- **Checkers:** Create a checkers board using your chalk. Grab some rocks and colour half of them with the chalk so you know who is know!
- **Wet Sidewalk Chalk:** If you splash some water on the concrete and then draw, the water turns the chalk into a paint-like texture!



- **Tic Tac Toe:**
 - One player is “x” and one player is “o” and you take turns filling in a square on the board until one person has 3 in a row.
 - Fun version: Throw a rock or bean bag onto the tic tac toe board that you made with your chalk and wherever it lands you must draw your x (or o) – the first one that throws 3 in a row wins!



- Chalk Paint:
 - **TO MAKE CHALK PAINT**, instead of using a mold, mix your cornstarch and water together, separate into cups depending on how many colours you want, and then add food colouring and stir!



Have fun with chalk this week! Be sure to submit a picture of your chalk for your chance to win a \$5 gift card for a summer treat!

