

Marble Painting



Roll marbles through paint blobs to create art that helps bring out the meaning of a Bible story.

This works great for mixed-age groups. Younger children will need more help while older ones are able to do each step on their own. Of course, the best part is being able to chat about the story while working together on the craft!

The story used in this example is [The Lord Speaks from a Burning Bush](#).

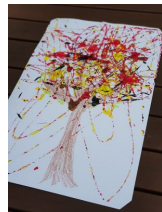
Materials:

- A baking pan or shallow box with sides (one for each child or take turns)
- A large paper cut to the size of the bottom of the pan or box
- Crayons
- Paints in fire colours like red, yellow, orange, brown and black (tempera or acrylic works well)
- Marbles (heavy ones work better and we had 3 per child)
- Tape
- Damp paper towels or items of choice for clean-up

Instructions:

1. Children draw a free-style bush on the paper using the crayons. This is the best time to write names or titles on the drawings, too.
2. Place the paper in the tray and secure the edges with a few pieces of tape.

3. Sparingly dot the paper with various colours of paint (thick globs don't work).
4. Place the marbles on the surface of the paper and move the trays around slowly in a rolling or gentle wave-like motion. As the marbles roll around they will pick up paint and distribute it over the paper.
5. Remove the marbles and hang the pictures to dry.



Adaptations:

Use this same method and different colours of paint to create effects. Generally, the children will draw the main picture and then use the paints to create the effect. Alternatively, you can provide a printed colour sheet and then have the children create the paint effect over it.

- Fire using red, yellow, orange and a bit of brown, black and white.
 - [The Lord Speaks from a Burning Bush](#)
 - [Nadab and Abihu](#)
 - [Elijah and the Contest at Mt. Carmel](#)
 - [Elijah and the Whirlwind](#)
 - [The Fiery Furnace](#)
- Storms, Water or Waves using blue, green, white and a little black as needed.
 - [Crossing the Red Sea](#)
 - [Baptism of Jesus](#)
 - [Jesus Calms the Storm](#)
 - [Jesus Walks on Water](#)
 - [Paul's Shipwreck](#)
 - [Day 2-God Created Sky & Water](#)
 - [Noah Builds an Ark & Loads Animals](#)
 - [The Flood and God's Promise](#)
- Wind using white and a little black on gray paper.
 - [Sermon at Pentecost](#) (Draw the people or steps of the colonnade and then create the wind with paint)
- Mood or Feeling using multi-colours on coloured or black paper. This is more abstract but can be very effective.

- [Creation Story](#)
- [Transfiguration](#)
- Plants using green and a few dots for flowers.
 - [Day 3-God created land and plants](#) (Experiment with green and then colours)
 - [Birth of Moses](#) (Draw the basket and then hide it with the green paint)
- Light using white or light yellow on black paper. Fill the page with the colours of light. Add some glow in the dark paint for fun.
 - [Day 1-God Created Light](#)
- Fire and Brimstone using red, yellow, orange or just use yellow and white with a little red to highlight the brimstone.
 - [Sodom and Gomorrah](#) (Draw the city first and then create fire and brimstone with paint)
- Hair using brown or black.
 - [Samson and Delilah](#) (Draw Samson's face first and then create the hair with paint)
- To use with any story:
 - Create a frame around any verse or picture by taping a paper over the centre of the paper (where the words are written) and only leave a blank space around the edges of the paper exposed. Once the painting is complete, remove the paper.

Date

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