

# Pop Art

## Best for Ages

4+

## Workspace

Flat indoor surface

## Is electricity required?

No

## Description

You've popped bubble wrap before, but have you tried popping bubble wrap with paint? For this activity we'll be exploring texture, color mixing and using our senses.

## Materials

- **Bubble wrap**  
Alternative: Clear plastic bag, plastic wrap
- **Non-toxic washable paint** Alternative: Use white frosting that is diluted with water. Add some food coloring and mix it well
- **Hand Soap:**  
Alternative: Dish soap
- **Tray**  
Alternative: cookie sheet, flatten cardboard box, trashbag
- **Table covering:** old table cloth, newspaper, cardboard

## Concepts Explored

- Texture
- Fine Motor Skills
- Color Mixing

## What to Do

1. The first step is to prepare your work space. Cover your work surface with a table covering to keep paint from getting on your table.
2. Place bubble wrap inside a tray, on a cardboard box, or even just on top of your covered surface.
3. Pour approximately 2 tablespoons of paint on top of the bubble wrap. Squeeze approximately a tablespoon of soap on top of your paint.
4. Use your hands or a paintbrush to mix the soap into the paint. Manipulate and move the paint around the bubble wrap. What happens when you pop a bubble with paint on it? What happens if you mix two colors?



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## Troubleshooting Tips

- If you want to feel the texture, but don't want your hands to get messy, add another layer of bubble wrap on top after adding the paint.
- Are you out of bubble wrap but want to continue the fun? Try using your painted bubble wrap to make impressions on blank paper.



What do you notice about the texture of the painting?

What happens if you mix two colors?

What other materials can you use to make paint?

## What is Happening?

- **Texture** is the feel of a surface such as the bubble wrap. The texture changes as you add soap and paint or pop the bubbles.
- Exploring texture helps develop **fine motor skills** which is the coordination of small muscles in your wrist and hands. These small muscles are the same muscles we use for writing and drawing.
- **Color mixing** is simply when you take at least two colors and combine them into a new color. This activity is a fun way to explore primary colors mixing into secondary colors.

## Taking it Forward

- If you like this activity, you'll also like these [Amazeum You](#) activities :
  - Water Painting
  - Mud Painting
- Learn more about colors by checking out these books at your local library:
  - *Separating Colors in Ink* by Brooke Rowe
  - *We're going on a Leaf Hunt* by Steve Metzger
  - *The Secrets of the Cool Colors and Hot Hues* by Bonnie Williams