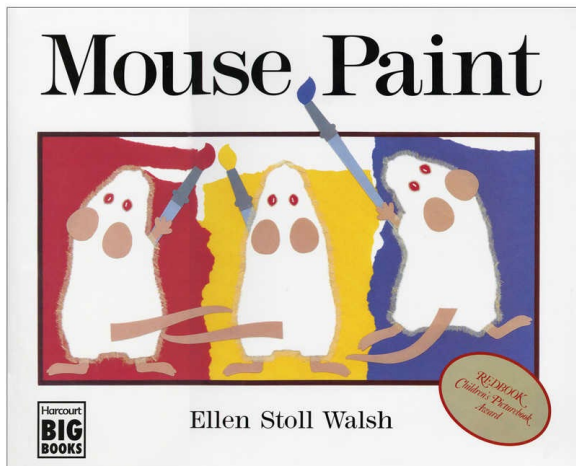




MOUSE PAINT

STORYBOOK CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUR YOUNG CHILD

Every child is different, and these are only suggested adaptations and activities. Do what works best for encouraging your child's exploration during this literacy activity. Consult your pediatrician, physical therapist (PT), and/or occupational therapist (OT) first.



Did you know reading books is a great opportunity to support STEM learning?

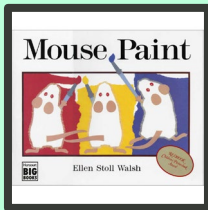
Mouse Paint is a book written by Ellen Stoll Walsh.

Three little mice climb around in different colored puddles of paint and discover how they mix. Can you and your child **predict** the colors?

- If you do not have a paper copy of this book, watch a YouTube video of someone reading the book. If you prefer to read it to your child yourself, just mute the audio.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WukUhcwv3Es>

- Check your local library to see if it allows you to borrow a digital version of this book to read on a laptop, tablet, or phone.



MOUSE PAINT BOOKMARK

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- Print this page and cut around the edges.
- Reading with babies and toddlers uses strategies such as:
 - Pointing to pictures
 - Using expressive facial features and voices
 - Spending as much time as your child wants on pages, they are very curious about
 - Modeling the right answer to help your child learn new words
 - Asking simple Wh-questions, such as "What is this color?"
- Look at STEMIE's tips for making adaptations to the storybook reading process and on the following pages:

<https://stemie.fpg.unc.edu/guide-book-adaptations>
- If you print this page, you can download or view online by scanning the QR code below.



Foundational | Science

Mouse Paint

By Ellen Stoll Walsh



Point to pictures



Be Expressive!



Model correct answers

"What color is that mouse?
Blue!"



WH questions

"What color is this mouse
making?"



Do not rush

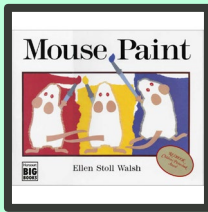
Wait for a response after a
comment or question

STEM Words & Ideas to Explore

- Colors
- Mix
- Mouse



stemie.fpg.unc.edu



MOUSE PAINT

ADAPTATIONS

STORYBOOK CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUR YOUNG CHILD

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SUPPORT CHILDREN WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENT/DEAF-BLINDNESS/MULTIPLE DISABILITIES:

STORYBOX

Select corresponding items and place them in a container/box. Items may include:

- Toy mouse
- Toy cat
- Jars (You may also choose to put water in the jars, like the paint in the book.)
- Paper
- Bowl



Image credit: clipart-library.org

This adaptation can also...

- Increase children's attention and engagement
- Support children with sensory challenges



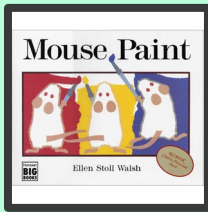
Follow your child's lead and interests. Enthusiastically ask your child questions about what they are doing and what they like.



Answer your child's questions. If you do not know the answer, work together with your child to discover the answer.



Encourage your child to participate in the activity as much as possible. Praise your child's efforts and successes.



MOUSE PAINT ADAPTATIONS

STORYBOOK CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUR YOUNG CHILD

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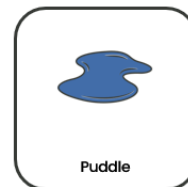
SUPPORT ALTERNATIVE WAYS OF COMMUNICATION:

PICTURES, SYMBOLS, SIGNS, AND/OR ICONS

- Select pictures that correspond to items/objects/animals in the book
- Add signs and icons to the story
- Use pictures along with a communication board to support STEM learning



Climb



Puddle



Stir



Step



Hop



Splash

Image Credit: STEMIE

This adaptation can also...

- Increase children's attention and engagement
- Support children' learning
- Support children who are deaf/with hearing impairment



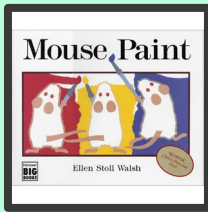
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MOUSE PAINT ADAPTATIONS

STORYBOOK CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUR YOUNG CHILD

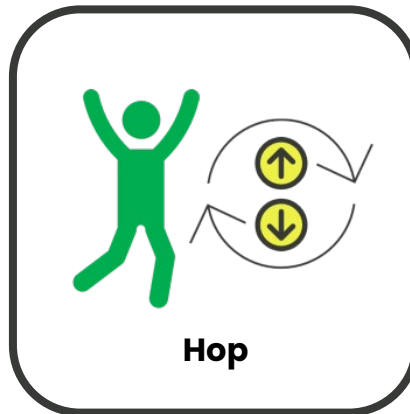
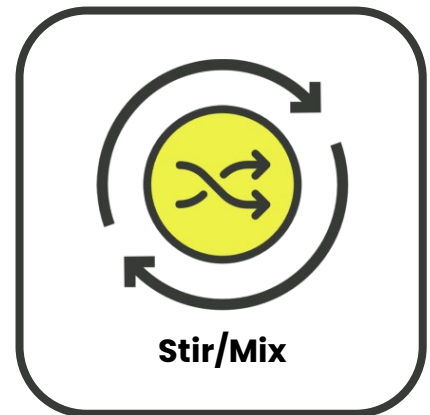
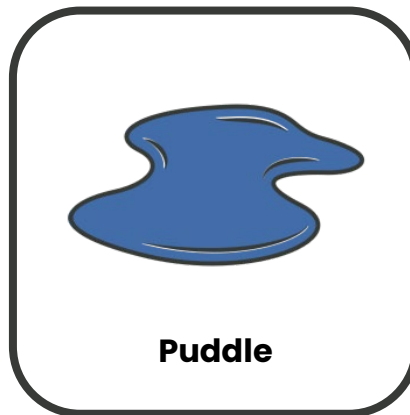
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VISUAL CUES:
USE TO PROMPT

HOW TO:

Step 1: Print and cut out the images. You can also create your own visual cues (empty squares included).

Step 2: As you read, use tape or Velcro to attach the pictures to the corresponding pages in the book.



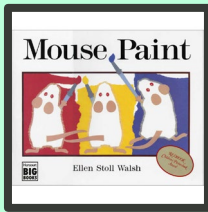
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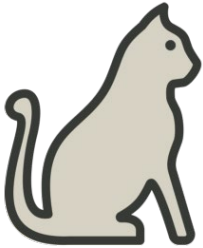
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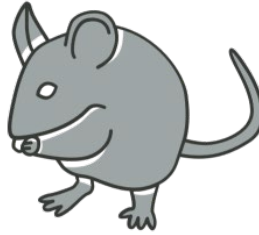
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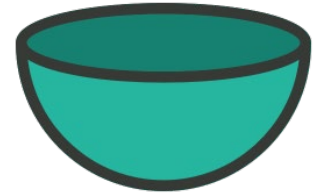
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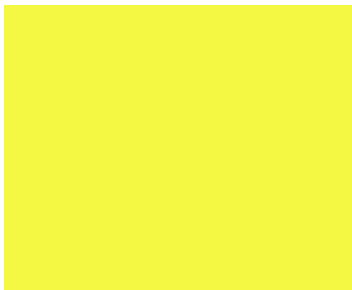
Cat



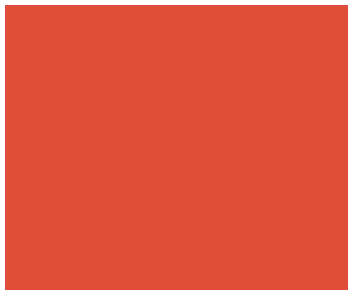
Mouse



Bowl



Yellow



Red



Blue



Orange



Green



Purple



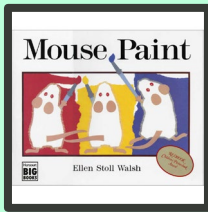
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MOUSE PAINT

EXPLORATION I

STORYBOOK CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUR YOUNG CHILD

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Paint Mixer

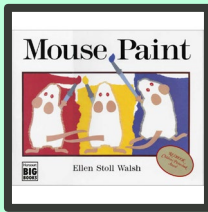
Description: Encourage your child to **mix** paints. Tape down some paper on the floor or on a highchair tray. Add a small dab (about the size of a quarter) of non-toxic yellow, red, and blue paints to the paper.

What My Child Is Learning!

Children learn best by interacting with people and objects. Introduce STEM words, ask questions, and encourage them to recognize colors in their daily routines. Help your child make a connection between words and real-life experiences and develop fundamental critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

Talk about the different colors your toddler is making. Ask, "What happens when _____ (e.g., red) mixes with _____ (e.g., blue)?" Model correct answers by saying, "When red mixes with blue, they create purple!" Ask "What kind of colors can you make?"





MOUSE PAINT

EXPLORATION I

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Ice Painter

Description: Encourage your child to **create** colors. Use an old ice tray to make ice cubes of different colors. You can do this by adding food coloring to water and then pouring into ice trays. This can be done with one or many colors on a highchair tray, the floor, outside on the sidewalk, and more!

What My Child Is Learning!

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As your child **explores** the ice and how it **feels**, look and talk about what happens when they **push** it around. You can say:

"Oh wow, this is cold!"

"Look how the red color is running into the yellow color to make a new color."

"You are pushing the ice and making so many colors!"

MOUSE PAINT



ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY IDEAS

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- Try making your own colored playdough at home to explore how colors can mix. Check out this recipe: <https://tinkerlab.com/rainbow-play-dough/>
- Mixing different colored Kool-Aids or lemonades is an easy way to experiment with color also!
- Next time you bake or frost a cake, mix in a little food coloring and let your child in on the fun!

