

Color-Play Painting

Explore color and create an abstract art piece inspired by Guyanese-British artist Frank Bowling.
Drop, splatter, and spray! Frank Bowling makes expressive art inspired by geography, politics, and his life using bright colors, shapes, and plenty of experimentation. What would you like to express?

Materials

3 or 4 bright paint colors
Heavy-duty paper, canvas, or fabric sheet
Paintbrushes
Sponges
Bowl or bucket
Spray bottle
Oil pastels or crayons
Patience...to let the canvas dry between layers!

Instructions

1. Lay your canvas on a well-protected surface.
2. Paint the entire canvas a solid color. Allow this first layer to dry completely.
3. Dip your paintbrush in different colors and fling your paintbrush to splatter paint on your canvas.
4. Experiment with different painting techniques! Try spraying, dripping, brushing, or sponging paint onto your canvas.
5. What if....? Improvise an unexpected way to move and apply paint.
6. Wait for your second layer of paint to dry completely.
7. Add shapes, such as circles or half-circles, to your surfaces by tracing a bowl or bucket with crayons.

Go Further

Which colors did you pick for your Color-Play Painting? Why?

What was your favorite way to apply paint to your canvas?

Learn more about Frank Bowling's life and art!

Name your piece and share it with us! Tag us on Instagram @bcmkids #bcmandyou

