



## WATER BALLOON MASTERPIECE

### Materials you need:

- 1 x packet water balloons
- Acrylic craft paints in some shallow trays or bowls
- Large sheets of paper

### Setup for play:

- Fill the water balloons (just enough to be easily held by small hands) and tie the tops firmly.
- Set out the trays of paint and paper, dip the balloons into the paint then stamp or roll on the paper to make patterns.
- When the children have had enough of paint stamping show them how to throw the water balloons down onto the paper and see how the water changes the painting and patterns.

## What are they learning with this activity?

As the children use the water balloons and paint in different ways they are learning to:

- Listen to and follow directions
- Use hand/eye coordination skills and demonstrate spatial awareness
- Manipulate objects to explore motion, cause and effect
- Express themselves creatively with printing methods
- Create with different mediums and textures
- Explore simple scientific concepts through play and observation
- Strengthen fine motor muscles, visual motor integration and control
- Challenge their sense of touch and sensory processing
- Use their sense of touch, sight and smell to make choices and create
- Work together in a group with others

## Extending the play:

- Draw some numbers and shapes on a wall with chalk, add a bucket of filled water balloons and encourage the children to throw them at the number and shape 'targets'. You can also make it a game by calling out a number or shape and see who can hit it first.
- Pass out the water balloons and set up a finish line using a chalk line, tree or equipment and see who can roll their balloon to the end first before it pops.