



Paint a Landscape with Nature

Collect leaves, flowers, stones, and other found materials, choose a view, and paint it with both conventional and natural tools. Talk about what each tool did and what the picture represents.

Helps Your Child Grow



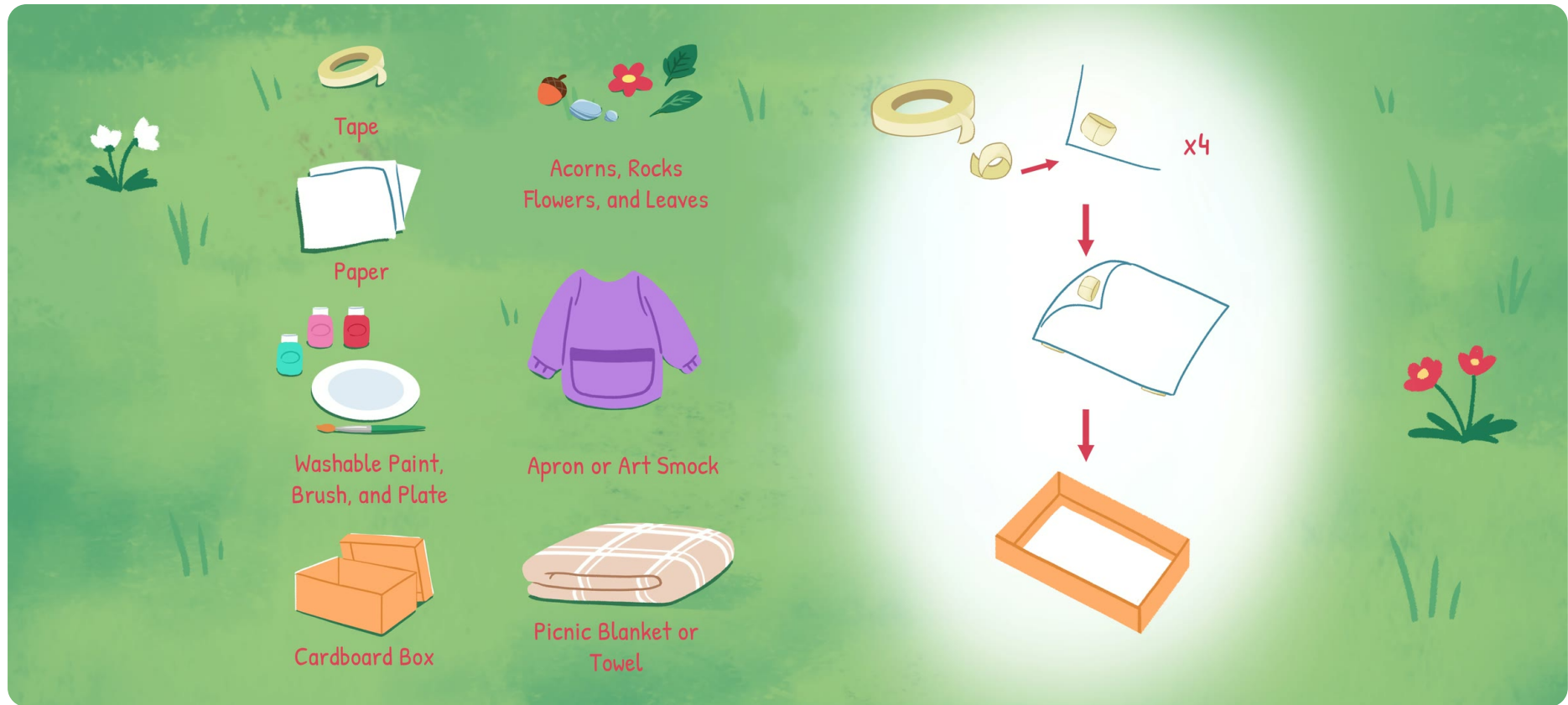
Fine Motor

Painting with brushes and natural materials helps your child adjust their grip and hand movements for different tools.



Communicating and Speaking

Questions about the picture, colors, and tools give your child a meaningful reason to explain creative choices in a back-and-forth conversation.



What You'll Need

1. Tape
2. drawing paper
3. paintbrushes
4. a shallow cardboard box
5. found natural materials
6. a paint smock
7. a picnic blanket
8. tape the paper to the bottom of the box



Collect Nature's Art Tools

Tell your child that today you are searching outdoors for tools to paint with. Follow their interest as you collect items such as leaves, flowers, or stones. For each find, wonder together how it might make a mark, then place it in the box.

Observations

- ☐ Picks up several small natural objects
- ☐ Searches nearby for possible painting materials, such as leaves or stones

Tips

- If your child is unsure what to find, offer one feature clue: “Could you find a long leaf that might work for painting?”
- Predict a result together: “What kind of mark might this flower leave if we dip it in paint and press it?”



Try an Unusual Paintbrush

Choose a park view to paint. Invite your child to dip the natural materials in paint and print or stroke them across the paper, then add details with a brush. Let them test how each tool changes the hand movement and mark.

Observations

- Changes how they hold different natural painting tools
- Dips collected materials in paint and makes marks on the paper

Tips

- Begin with something visible: “There’s a tree ahead. Which material could help you paint it?”
- If the materials feel unfamiliar, demonstrate one: dip a flower lightly in paint and press it onto the paper.
- Focus on how your child adjusts the movement for each tool, not on whether the picture looks realistic. That adjustment supports #PMP-FiM.
- Put on the smock before painting so your child can create freely.



Tell Me About Your Picture

When the picture is finished, look at it together. Ask what each part represents and which colors and tools created it, giving your child time to share the ideas behind the work.

Observations

- Talks with you about what they painted
- Points to part of the picture and says what it represents

Tips

- If your child does not introduce the picture, invite them gently: “Can you tell me about it?”
- When your child uses a word or short phrase, model a complete sentence: “I used an acorn to paint the lake.”
- Keep the exchange going with connected questions: “What is this?” “Why this color?” “Which tool made that mark?”
- At the end, collect every material and painted item so nothing is left in the grass.