## Salt Painting

Visitors will discover the awesome absorbent properties of salt while they create gorgeous ethereal watercolor paintings.

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### Supplies

- Construction paper
- Liquid watercolor
- Paint cups with lids
- Paint brushes
- Crayons
- Salt
- Salt shakers
- Masking tape
- Butcher paper
- Smocks

### Advanced Preparation

- Gather supplies
- Fill the salt shakers with salt and tape the lids on tight with masking tape

### Set Up

- Cover table with butcher paper and tape down with masking tape
- Place appropriate activity sign on table
- Supply construction paper
- Supply crayons
- Supply salt shakers
- Supply smocks

### Procedure

- Put on a smock, this activity can get messy!
- Find a piece of paper and use the watercolor to paint a picture.
- Sprinkle a little bit of salt on the paint when it is still wet!
- Wait a few minutes and watch the salt absorb some of the water and color! The salt will create magic on your paper!
- When you are finished place your art on a drying rack to dry. Remember to come back and take it home with you.

### Discussion Questions

*Explore the children’s knowledge on the subject through open-ended questions.*

**Ask:**

- What colors did you use?
- What did you paint?
- What does your painting look like?
- Why do you think the paint does that?
There is enough salt in the ocean to cover the continents 500 feet deep! The majority of salt produced in the United States is used to keep winter roads ice-free. In Science Playground, we use salt in our playdough because it acts as a preservative and it adds texture, strengthening the dough so that it is pliable. In the USA, over 75 percent of the sodium consumed is in the form of processed foods.