
Little Sun Foundation Project 3

Sun catcher art project



INDOOR
ACTIVITY



FOCUS ON:
ART

Suggested age: 3 to 5



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Summary

This project explores the beauty and power of sunlight through the artistic creation of sun catchers. Through observation students learn that sunlight interacts with objects and the effects produced by sunlight change from season to season, day to day, moment to moment.

Outcomes

- Through tactile and creative play students learn that the sun is both beautiful and powerful, that it affects the objects it touches and has a central role to play in our experience on earth.

Suggested age range: 3 to 5 years

Subjects Covered: Science, Environment, Art, Geography

Materials: The sun, paper, coloured cellophane, coloured markers or crayons, scissors, sticky tape or glue.

Time required: Preparation: 5 minutes
Teaching: 40 minutes

Preparation:

- Read through the program
- Prepare the crafting materials such as cardboard, paper, coloured cellophane, coloured pens, scissors, glue
- Prepare the cardboard frames for the youngest students
- Find a window, glass door or a sunny space in the classroom to display the sun catchers

Feel



Begin the class in a bright room. Hold up various pieces of coloured cellophane or coloured paper and observe how the light changes the intensity of the material, observe how that changes depending on the colour used, the time of day, season or change of weather.

Act

Hand out the prepared cardboard frames or have the students make their own.

Ask the students to begin by selecting various pieces of coloured paper and cellophane to work with. Students can then stick these pieces together in a pattern using the cardboard frames or layer on top of each other for a different effect.

Stick the final pieces on a glass window or door. Alternatively, hang them from the ceiling with string or fishing line.

Observe how the intensity of sunlight changes the look of the sun catchers.



Extension activity:

Once the sun catchers are complete and installed somewhere with bright sunlight ask the students to take a large piece of white paper and over the course of a day draw the colours and shapes as they move across the paper. Observe how at the beginning of the day the light is weaker than in the middle of the day, also when clouds obscure the sun.

Discuss why this happens.

Know

The sun appears to move in the day but it is really the earth that moves. The sun is brighter and more powerful during various times of the day or year due to the seasons, weather and time of day.