

A Tisket, A Tasket, A Fruit and Vegetable Basket

Because fruits and vegetables are so beautiful, they are often the subject of art. A cooperative art project, using supplied black-line pictures and an easy-to-make glossy “paint,” will result in a gorgeous basket of produce for a wall or bulletin board display.

CODE: Low activity level 

PROPS:



Copies of colorbook style fruits and vegetables on card stock paper (pages 28-31)



Clear corn syrup



Food coloring



Paint brushes



Small containers for corn syrup paint



Background to place finished art (see suggestions below)

ACTION:

1. Place several tablespoons of clear corn syrup (not the dark type) in four containers. Using food coloring, tint one container of corn syrup red; one green; one yellow/orange; one purple/blue. Use enough food coloring to make the corn syrup a substantial color rather than a light pastel. The tinted corn syrups are the paints to color the food pictures.
2. Copy or mount the pictures on the following pages onto card stock paper. Cut the picture pages into fourths with a fruit or vegetable in each rectangle.
3. Provide one or more of the fruit/vegetable pictures to each child. Discuss the pictures. Have they tasted any of them?
4. Have children paint their pictures using the tinted corn syrup. There is no need to “stay in the lines.” Option: Instead of the provided pictures, have children draw their own version of different fruits or vegetables on heavy paper. Then paint the drawings.
5. Allow projects to dry overnight or longer. When dry, the surface will be glossy. Cut out the painted fruits and vegetables along the image lines.
6. Place the painted fruits and/or vegetables in a cutout picture of a basket attached to a bulletin board or poster. Or provide another type of background/theme on which to attach the painted fruits/vegetables.







