

## Visual Arts Activity Planning

**Your theme and subtheme:** Theme: Food

**Subtheme:** What happens to food if we don't eat it? (additional idea: can you use food that is going bad and maybe not as safe to eat, for art?)

**How is this activity connected to the subtheme?** The subtheme is to focus on food waste, how it happens. But, as a way to implement my art idea, I would introduce the notion of using food for art. (food that is no longer or on the verge of being inedible)

**Introducing a Visual Arts Activity to Students:** Visual arts activities are usually held in the Art Center of the classroom. The activity usually remains the same for several days. The teacher usually introduces it as a new activity and then students choose to go there and explore the materials. ***NOTE: Your activity should use creative mark-making materials (i.e., not just the usual drawing/painting).***

**When Centers are Introduced:** The teacher may demonstrate how to use the materials show what she/he has made or show the materials that students will be using.

### Materials

Paper  
Potatoes  
Dried beans  
Colored rice  
Bell pepper  
Dried spices/herbs paint  
Pears  
Avocado pits  
Paint of various colors  
smocks

### Introduction

"If food is not safe to eat anymore, it is optional for us to either toss it, compost it, or, more innovatively, use it for art. Using these foods for art and being creative with what we can do with them is a great way to utilize without waste, and look at art differently. That it doesn't have to be just the traditional mediums."

**Explain the project.** What will children be doing in this activity?

### Teacher Support

Though students work mostly independently during center time, teachers scaffold their learning through talking with them and sometimes making art beside them. What questions might you ask your students as they work? What will you do to help them explore?

Students will...

Students will select which foods they would like to use.

Colored rice and dried beans will be available in one station for mosaic art designs.

Another station will have paint and spices that students can smell and mix while painting. (with fingers)

And lastly, there will be a 3rd station with halved potatoes, bell peppers, pears, and avocado pits.

The students will be able to dip the cut ends of these foods into paint and use them to create stamps, as well as roll the avocado pit in paint.

I will...

I will shift from station to station, asking pertinent questions to each station.

"I see that you are making a pattern with the rice and beans. How did you decide that shape?"

"How do those two spices smell when mixed? What does the texture feel like??"

"Do you think the potatoes and pears make the same stamp? Why or why not? What does the pepper remind you of?"

I love doing art alongside the students, so I (along with a secondary teacher) would be rotating to assist the students and create with them.