



## Adapted Arts and Crafts

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- Art activities can be very unstructured, the sky is the limit!!
- Don't be too interested in an end product, it's the fun in creating that is so important.
- Create an environment that encourages exploration, creativity, and positive self esteem.
- Use a wide range of materials. Paint with brushes, sponges, rollers, combs, fingers, feet, spray bottles, toothbrushes, forks, blot with towels, and other creative items.
- Find ways to make art projects more accessible for individuals. For example, clamp paper onto the table or wheelchair tray to prevent sliding. Use easels for projects; determine a degree to tilt them which is easy for the individual to reach.
- Art experiences can encourage fine motor skills, eye-hand coordination, and problem solving skills. In addition, language skills can be further developed. Talk about different textures, examine how things feel, how they look, and what you can do with them.
- The following are arts and craft supplies and kits that have been found to be more easily accessible for children with disabilities. Many of the items have larger knobs, spill-proof features, easy to grasp handles, and enlarged features. We have also listed the necessary information you will need to contact the companies where supplies can be purchased. Consider calling to get a copy of their latest catalog. The following is only a sampling of the many arts and crafts materials available not an endorsement.

### Markers, Pencils, and Crayons

#### **Crayola Wonder Paper and Markers**

- Special markers and paper only work inside design/picture (can't color outside the lines)
- Good for children who are having trouble coloring in the lines. Good for children with learning disabilities, attention deficits, and developmental disabilities

*Available from Crayola*

#### **Scribble Wiggle Writer**

- Motorized pen that wiggles as it writes with four interchangeable, color cartridges
- Changing position of the pen and tightness of the grasp varies the design that is made
- Good for children with sensory issues

*Available from sensorycomfort.com*

#### **Cray Pas Chubbies**

- Set of twelve
- Extra thick
- Create bright colors with light force

*Available from Constructive Playthings*

#### **Sure Grip Crayons**

- Set of twelve
- Large "bulb" fits snugly into child's palm

*Available from Constructive Playthings*

#### **Jumbo People Color Crayons**

- Set of twenty-four
- Sized for smaller hands

*Available from Lakeshore Learning Materials*

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[www.lekotek.org](http://www.lekotek.org) • [lekotek@lekotek.org](mailto:lekotek@lekotek.org) • [www.ableplay.org](http://www.ableplay.org)

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## **Adapted Arts and Crafts...(continued)**

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### **Crayola So Big Crayons**

- Box of eight
- Extra-large for easier holding

*Available from S & S Arts and Crafts*

### **Crayola Anti-Roll Crayons**

- Box of eight
- Will not roll off table

*Available S & S Arts and Crafts*

## **Sponge Painters, Brushes, and Paints**

### **Easy Grip Sponge Painters** (see also E-Z Hold Sponge Painters-Constructive Playthings)

- Set of six
- Big, easy grip, sponge handles with attached sponge shapes
- Paint will not get on child's fingers

*Available from Lakeshore Learning Materials*

### **Crayola Washable Watercolor Wands**

- Set of three
- Paint is already on the sponge, simply wet with water and paint
- Eliminates lengthy steps

*Available from Toys-R-Us, Constructive Playthings*

### **Knob Beginner Brushes**

- Set of three
- Built-up "knob" handles makes it easier to hold

*Available from Childcraft Education Corp.*

### **Childcraft Beginner Paintbrushes**

- Set of six/set of twelve
- Short, chubby, plastic handles which are easy to grasp
- Basic, primary colors can identify which brush goes with each paint color

*Available from Childcraft Education Corp.*

### **Easy Hold Painters**

- Set of six bold colors
- Specially shaped, wide bottle makes it easier to hold
- Sponge applicator that can be used as a paintbrush or dabber

*Available from Constructive Playthings*

### **Do-a Dot paint markers**

- Extra large dotters that don't spill
- Hold like a marker and paint dots
- Good for children who need a large handle

*Available from <http://artsncrafts4kids.com/bdoadartpain.html> or (888) 760-6237*

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[www.lekotek.org](http://www.lekotek.org) • [lekotek@lekotek.org](mailto:lekotek@lekotek.org) • [www.ableplay.org](http://www.ableplay.org)

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## Adapted Arts and Crafts...(continued)

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**Crayola No Spill Washable Paint** (see also Best-Buy No-Spill Paint Cups-Lakeshore Learning Materials; No Spill Paint Cups with Lids-Constructive Playthings; Non-Spill Plastic Paint Pots-Childcraft Education Corp.; Spill Proof Paint Cups-S & S Arts and Crafts)

- Container has hole in top for a paint brush to fit through
- Hole wipes off extra paint as it is pulled out of the container
- Paint will not spill out if container is dropped or tipped

*Available from Toys-R-Us*

### **Economy Easel**

- 2-sided
- Chalkboard panel can be raised or lowered to fit an individual's height or to make accessible for an individual in a wheelchair

*Available from Childcraft Education Corp*

*Many other types of easels are available from Childcraft Education Corp., Constructive Playthings, Lakeshore Learning Materials, and S&S Arts & Crafts.*

### **Scissors**

**Squeeze & Cut First Scissors** (see also Squizzers-S & S Arts and Crafts)

- Sized for small hands
- Easy-grip plastic looped handle
- Cut easy with a squeeze of the looped handle
- Short, rounded blades
- Automatically open after each snip

*Available from Lakeshore Learning Materials*

### **So Big Scissors**

- Set of six
- Longer blade than Squeeze & Cut First Scissors
- Plastic edge handle that fits small hands
- Automatically opens back up after cutting

*Available from Childcraft Education Corp.*

**Easy-Squeeze Training Scissors** (see also Easy Grip Scissors-Constructive Playthings; Snip Loop Scissors-S & S Arts and Crafts)

- Longer blade than Squeeze & Cut First Scissors
- Plastic loop handle re-opens scissors automatically
- Sized larger for adult hands

*Available from Childcraft Education Corp.*

**Double-Handed Training Scissors** (see also Training Scissors-S & S Arts and Crafts)

- 2 sets of plastic-coated handles on one pair of scissors, one for the child, one for the helper
- Helps children develop the motor rhythm of cutting

*Available from Constructive Playthings*



## **Adapted Arts and Crafts...(continued)**

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### **Miscellaneous Items**

**Perfect Paper Punches** (see also Designer Paper Punches-Childcraft Education Corp.)

- Available in many shapes and figures
- Easy to press, raised knob cuts shape cleanly when placed on the paper

*Available from Constructive Playthings*

**Roll Along Clay Cutters**

- Includes eighteen different cutters
- Easy moving roller cuts six different designs at once

*Available from Childcraft Education Corp.*

**Stamp-A-Story Rubber Stamp Sets**

- Stamp stories, themes, or even make your own gift wrap with stamps

*Available from S & S Arts & Crafts*

*Other stamps are available from Childcraft, Constructive Playthings, or other Arts-n-Crafts stores.*

**Spin & Draw**

- Tape down a piece of paper on the Spin & Draw, give it a spin, and draw with markers and crayons

*Available from Lakeshore Learning Materials*

**Spin Art**

- Battery operated or can be hooked up to a switch with a battery interrupter
- Drop paint on the spinning paper to create artistic master-pieces

*Available at Toys-R-Us*

*Switch adapted Spin Arts are available from Toys for Special Children or AbleNet*

### **Arts -N- Craft Activity Kits**

**Crayola “No Mess Sponge Painting”**

- Contains paints, sponges, and a storage box.

*Available from Crayola.com*

### **Resources for Arts and Crafts Projects**

**Paint Without Brushes**

- Innovative, easy-to-do art activities with different objects

*Available from Lakeshore Learning Materials*

**Creative Play Activities for Children With Disabilities**

- Tips for successful play as well as exploring the world of senses, movement, water play, arts & crafts, music, and group activities
- Special suggestions given for children who are either deaf, blind, physically or visually challenged

*Available from Sportime Abilitations*

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## **Adapted Arts and Crafts...(continued)**

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### **Scribble Cookies & Other Independent Creative Art Experiences for Children**

**by Mary Ann F. Kohl**

*Available from Teacher Supply Stores or other Book Stores*

### **Messy Activities and More by Virginia K. Morin**

*Available from Teacher Supply Stores or other Book Stores*

**Other Arts and Crafts books can be purchased at local book stores or teacher supply stores.**

### **Catalogs Supplying Arts & Crafts Materials**

#### **Ablenet, Inc.**

1081 Tenth Avenue, SE  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55414-1312

1-800-322-0956

[www.ablenet.com](http://www.ablenet.com)

#### **Childcraft Education Corporation**

2920 Old Tree Drive  
Lancaster, Pennsylvania 17603

1-800-631-5652

[www.childcraft.com](http://www.childcraft.com)

#### **Constructive Playthings**

13201 Arrington Road  
Grandview, Missouri 64030

1-800-448-1412

1-800-448-1413

[www.constplay.com](http://www.constplay.com)

#### **Discount School Supplies**

P.O. Box 7636  
Spreckles, CA 93962-7636

1-800-356-1564

<http://www.earlychildhood.com/>

#### **Lakeshore Learning Materials**

2695 E. Dominquez Street  
Carson, California 90810

<http://www.lakeshorelearning.com/>

#### **S & S Worlwide**

75 Mill Street  
Colchester, Connecticut 06415

[www.ssw.com](http://www.ssw.com)

#### **Enabling Devices/Toys for Special Children**

385 Warburton Avenue  
Hastings-on-Hudson, New York 10706

1-800-832-8697

<http://enablingdevices.com>

#### **Crayola**

<http://www.crayola.com>