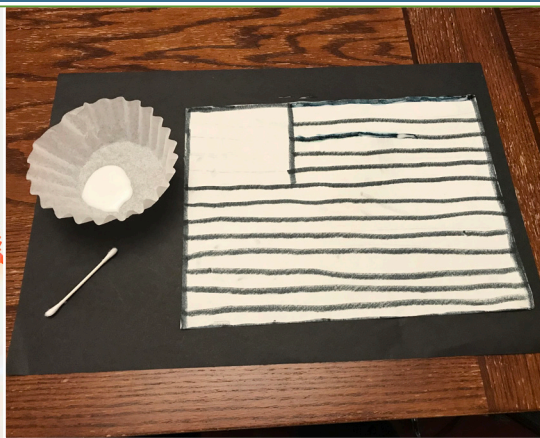


MACARONI AMERICAN FLAG



Materials

Dry Pasta
Red and Blue Food Coloring
2 Teaspoons Vinegar
Plastic Bags
Waxed Paper
Copy Paper
Markers
Glue
Cotton Swab

Directions

1. Toss dry pasta with food coloring and 1 teaspoon of vinegar in a plastic bag. Shake to coat. Allow to dry on waxed paper.
2. Have children draw an outline of a flag on a sheet of paper.
3. Give children some glue and a cotton swab. Have them apply the glue to every other stripe and the square.
4. Have children apply the colored pasta to make an American flag.

Hints and extended learning opportunities:

- Have older children use their math skills to figure out how to evenly distribute the 13 stripes.
- Have older children predict how many pasta pieces will fit in each stripe.
- Even if a child is too young to draw their own lines, promote small motor skills by encouraging them to manipulate the cotton swab to apply the glue and grasp the pasta shapes and apply them to the paper.
- Experiment with different pasta shapes or even substitute the pasta with dried rice if you don't mind the cleanup.
- Involve the children in dying the pasta and use the opportunity to explain the color wheel.