



Spots & Swirls Banners

Every country is colorful! Toddlers and their parents listen to the story of two colors, Blue and Yellow, to see what happens when they become friends! Then families make colorful banners to wave in a lively parade!

Group

Baby Club Med/ 12 months to 24 months

Materials Needed

Beginnings™ TaDoodles™ Crayon Buddies
Beginnings™ TaDoodles™ First Marks
Beginnings Tidy Tops
clear adhesive tape
construction paper
School Glue
Scissors (**for adult use only!**)
white paper

Safety Guidelines

Age recommendation for this craft: 18 months and older

- Close adult supervision is required to assure children's safety.

Requirements for Younger Children

- For children from ages 12 through 17 months, use **ONLY** Beginnings TaDoodles™ Crayon Buddies.
- Scissors must be kept out of reach from all toddlers.

Prepare the Room

1. Make sure the room is safe and ready for active toddlers. Experiment with the markers and Crayon Buddies. Mix colors! Prepare a sample banner like the one toddlers and their parents will make. Scribble with exciting lines, shapes, and designs!
2. Display colorful books and pictures related to local culture and parade themes. If possible, show colorful local textiles.
3. Read *Little Blue and Little Yellow* by Leo Lionni. Practice using different voices and gestures to make the story come alive.



4. Lay out supplies. Set up music for the parade.



Set the Scene for Toddlers and Parents 8 to 10 minutes

- Welcome toddlers and their parent(s) by name. Make sure everyone finds a comfortable place to sit (toddlers may prefer a familiar lap). Share items from the display. Talk about colorful things the families have seen on vacation. Look for common interests and experiences.
- Read *Little Blue and Little Yellow*. What colors were mentioned in the book? What happened when two colors were mixed?
- With markers, show how to mix blue and yellow. Watch green appear!

Activity for Toddlers 5 to 15 minutes

1. Parents help toddlers put on their artist smocks. "Artists wear smocks. It's time to put yours on, too."
2. Show the Beginnings™ TaDoodles™. Demonstrate how the markers and Crayon Buddies naturally fit a toddler's palm grasp. Ask parents to describe the tools to their children. "Each is a different animal and a different color. The pink marker is a pig! When the animal stands on its head, you make marks on paper." Toddlers and moms select one or two colors and paper to get started. Moms with children from 12 to 17 months use only Crayon Buddies.
3. Encourage moms to show their children how to hold their TaDoodles. Suggest they help their children scoop them up and turn them over. Some toddlers will immediately scribble on the paper. Others may need time to warm up to the idea. A few may want to roll the TaDoodles like balls. Exploring is what toddlers do best!
4. Invite children to mix exciting spots and swirls of color on their papers. Suggest that parents offer encouragement. "All those swirling colors are very exciting! What happened when you mixed yellow dots with blue ones?" Decorate at least six pieces of paper. **Adults** cut the paper into smaller squares that show the most colorful scribbles.
5. Parents and toddlers talk together to arrange their decorated papers on construction paper to form a banner. When they are pleased with their arrangement, they glue the pieces in place.
6. Parents help toddlers roll a sheet of paper tightly to make a handle for the banner. Glue the edges closed and hold it until the glue has air dried. Parents help toddlers tape their handles to the backs of the banners.
7. Parents show their children how to grasp the handle and gently wave their banners.



After the Activity 8 to 10 minutes

Mexico

Play a recording of local music and have children wave their banners in a spirited Fiesta parade! Invite children and parents to dance and march around to view each other's colorful creations!

Skill-Level Variations

- Toddlers who finish early may wish to decorate the banner border as well!
- Try different effects. Do the colors appear different on the colored construction paper than they do on the white paper?

Movement & Music

Play recordings such as these while children decorate their banners or for the parade afterwards.

- *Critical Brass* by Hungry March Band

Mexico

- *Fiesta Musical: A Musical Adventure Through Latin America for Children* from Music for Little People
- *Mariachi From Mexico* by Mariachi Lopez Varanga & Los Lobos

Variations by Destination

Mexico

Mexican textile work is very bright! Look for woven shawls, called serapes, that men wear for both shade and warmth. A tilma is a rigid cotton triangular cloak or blanket, usually with red and white stripes. Show how a rebozo, a shawl, can be worn by women and used to carry babies. Puebla dresses are usually white cotton decorated with colorful embroidery.

Books to Keep Kids Reading

Curious George at the Parade by H.A. Rey

Little Blue and Little Yellow by Leo Lionni

Mouse Paint by Ellen Stohl Walsh



Mexico

Colors of Mexico by Lynn Ainsworth Olawsky & Janice Lee Porter

Market Day by Lois Ehlert

Mexico ABCs: A Book About the People and Places of Mexico by Sarah Heiman

Off We Go to Mexico: An Adventure in the Sun by Laurie Krebs

Parade by Donald Crews

Textiles From Mexico by Chloe Sayer

More Fun Ideas

Enjoy these easy activities with parents and toddlers who finish early.

- *Finished Already?* What are some games that Little Blue and Little Yellow played together in the book? Ring Around the Rosie was one! Gather children and parents to play and sing while the others finish their banners.
- Enjoy another story together.

Surf Crayola.com

Children might enjoy these similar (list art technique or topic) projects, all found on Crayola.com. Substitute with age-appropriate craft supplies to assure children's safety.

- Big Brushstrokes
- Color Match Card Game
- Color Wonder™ Fingerpainting Pals

Fun Facts About Crayola Colors

Blue is the #1 favorite crayon color in the United States. Children between the ages of 2 and 8 years old spend on average 30 minutes coloring each day!

Connect With Families

Distribute parent handouts.



Spots and Swirls Banners

Mexico

Dear Parents,

We hope you enjoyed making a Spots and Swirls Banner with your toddler. It is a great Mexican souvenir for your family! Your child will remember the vacation for a long time when you hang the banner in a prominent place in your home. Talk about it with friends and family, too.

Share a few observations with your child about the unique qualities of this creative collaboration. Children appreciate detailed comments such as, "I see you used big and little dots to make the designs on your banner," or "When you mixed blue and red spots, you made purple!"

We have suggestions for more resources about colors, especially books that will engage your child's imagination. Just ask us!

Thanks for bringing your toddler to Baby Club Med featuring creative, colorful Crayola® fun!

Visit www.Crayola.com for these and other cool, colorful activities as your toddler discovers new ways to express ideas and feelings.

- Big Brushstrokes
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