



Vacation Murals: Scenes on the Sidewalk

Get down on the ground and have some fun in the sun! Check out local artwork and then create designs in a similar style. This outdoor super-sized mural is chalk-full of fun!

Group

Mini Club Med/Ages 4-11

Materials Needed

3-D Sidewalk Chalk and Glasses
garden hose

Safety Guidelines

Age recommendation for this craft: 4 years and older

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

Prepare the Area

1. Find an area outdoors with plenty of concrete or asphalt space for drawing a HUGE chalk mural—plan to fill several sections of sidewalk with blocks of color and life-size drawings! A low-traffic area is best.
2. Create your own outdoor art! Every stick of 3-D Sidewalk Chalk has two specially paired colors. Use them together to create the most dramatic dimensional effects. Experiment with several color combinations and be sure to leave plain space between colors, so you know how 3-D Sidewalk Chalk works best. Put on the glasses frequently as you experiment! Colors will “pop” at different levels!
3. Display related books and sample art by local artists.

Set the Scene for Children 8 to 10 minutes

- Children get excited about painting their own sidewalk murals. Ask them to think about favorite scenes from their vacation. They might want to draw a beach, an amusement park, or creatures and plants in a rainforest, for example. If children work in small groups, what will each person contribute to the drawing?
- Show the outdoor picture you created, and let everyone view it through the 3-D glasses. How does it change? Point out the



combinations of colors on the dual-ended chalk. Locate those colors on a color wheel.

- Set out chalk so everyone can help themselves.
- Play upbeat music related to the local culture in the background!



Art Directions 30 to 40 minutes

1. Remember that for some children, Club Med kids staff may be their very first formal art teachers! Demonstrate or explain art techniques for young artists as they create their Outdoor Art. Recommend color combinations that create the best 3-D effects.
2. Encourage children to work together to plan their scenes. Suggest they embellish their drawings with details such as words, names, and dates.
3. Put on the 3-D glasses! What other details would make pictures really pop out?

After the Project 8 to 10 minutes

- Gather the group and go for a sidewalk stroll! Look for some of the places depicted on the murals.
- Organize a treasure hunt to look for local plants, bugs, or other items that children illustrated in their murals.
- View all the unique drawings and note the influences of local artists, colors, and designs.
- Spray away the art with a garden hose.

Skill-Level Variations

Ages 4 to 6

- Encourage young artists to draw and fill simple shapes with colorful chalk.

Ages 7 to 11

- This age group may be eager to draw an activity they experienced on vacation! Maybe they swam with the dolphins or built sand castles on the beach!
- Invite children to experiment with colorful 3-D effects.



Movement & Music

Play recordings such as these while children create their murals or after they finish for movement, dancing, and/or singing.

Mexico

- *Cinco de Mayo Party Music* by DJ's Choice
- *DeColores and Other Latin American Folk Songs* by Jose-Luis Orozco
- *Fiesta Musical: A Musical Adventure Through Latin America for Children* from Music for Little People
- *Mariachi From Mexico* by Mariachi Lopez Varanga & Los Lobos
- *Mexico* by various artists

Variations by Destination

Mexico

Look at several reproductions of Diego Rivera's murals. Share some interesting facts about him and his work, such as these highlights.

Rivera was born December 8, 1886, in Guanajuato, Mexico, and died November 24, 1957, in Mexico City. Legend has it that his father covered the walls of Diego's bedroom with paper so that he could paint on the walls. He studied art in Europe as well as with Mexican artists.

Rivera is responsible for the re-introduction of fresco painting (doing small sections of a larger work at one time). Rivera liked murals because they could contain lots of his ideas and artistic visions on one space. More importantly to Diego, outdoor murals could reach a wide audience, not like gallery walls where only certain people could get inside and see the art.

His murals included famous and regular people, historic figures, political sayings, symbols from Aztec culture, cross-sections of things, and architecture. Notice that there are no open spaces in his murals.

Often the titles of his murals were long, such as "Man at the Crossroads looking with hope and high vision to choosing of a new and better future." He saw titles as another way of instructing viewers about his mural messages.



Books to Keep Kids Reading

Children love books that build on ideas they explore through art. Display these books and have older kids read to younger ones aloud as time permits to first engage their imaginations.

Mexico

Diego Rivera: Painting Mexico by Deborah Kent

Look What Came From Mexico by Miles Harvey

Mexican Art & Culture by Elizabeth Lewis

Murals: Walls That Sing by George Ancona

Piñatas and Smiling Skeletons: Celebrating Mexican Festivals by Zoë Harris, Suzanne Williams, and Yolanda Garfias Woo

Graphics

For a color wheel, go to

<http://www.colormatters.com/colortheory.html>

Mexico

Find more information about Diego Rivera and examples of his work at:

<http://www.diego-rivera.org/>

<http://www.nga.gov/exhibitions/2004/rivera> (National Gallery of Art)

<http://www.riveramural.com/> (City College of San Francisco)

More Fun Ideas

- Now that children know what colors create the best 3-D effects, challenge them to see how the sizes of objects change their drawings! Suggest making more outdoor art with objects of various sizes. What objects look closest and farthest away with the glasses on?
- For children who finish early, suggest using the chalk to create an outdoor game board! Can they put a new twist on hopscotch or come up with a totally original game? Encourage them to challenge each other in friendly outdoor play!
- Explore the world of color! What are primary, secondary, and complimentary colors? What cool effects result from their combinations?



Surf Crayola.com

Children might enjoy these similar outdoor art projects, all found on Crayola.com.

- Big, Bold Sidewalk Signs
- Hip Hop Hopscotch
- Solar Flare Sidewalk Game

Fun Facts About Crayola Colors

The contrasting or opposite color (on the color wheel) of blue is orange. When the two are placed next to each other they appear to "vibrate."

Connect With Families

Under 6: Distribute parent handouts.

Over 6: Use this conversation starter to share information about the activity: Today we saw lots of examples of Diego Rivera's murals. Ask your child questions such as: Who was Diego Rivera? What did you and your friends draw on the sidewalk? How does 3-D chalk work?

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Mexico

Dear Parents,

We hope you enjoy talking about today's exciting activities with your child. Your child will remember this vacation for a long time when you talk about making murals in 3-D chalk outdoors in the style of Diego Rivera, a famous Mexican artist. Legend has it that his father covered the walls of Diego's bedroom with paper so that he could paint on the walls!

Rivera liked murals because they could contain lots of his ideas and could reach a wide audience, not like gallery walls where only certain people could get inside and see the art. There are no open spaces in his murals.

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

Thanks for bringing your child to a Mini Club Med Art Project featuring Crayola® creative fun!

Visit www.Crayola.com for these and other cool mural activities

- The Murals of Diego Rivera
- Pop-Up Wildlife Mural
- Whale of a Tale

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