Resources for an Art Themed Storytime

Resource Books

Starting With Stories: Engaging Multiple Intelligences Through Children’s Books
by Pam Schiller and Pat Phipps
Pam Schiller’s Starting With Stories is an excellent resource to use in developing storytimes for the diverse audiences you will encounter in public libraries.

Some helpful areas include:

- Pages 66-67: The Dot by Peter Reynolds
- Pages 68-69: Dream Carver by Diana Cohn
- Pages 136-137: Mouse Paint by Ellen Stohl Walsh
- Pages 184-185: Ten Black Dots by Donald Crews

Preschool Art by MaryAnn Kohl
Preschool Art offers over 200 process-oriented art experiences for children ages 3-6. Using materials commonly found in the home, childcare, or preschool program, children explore, discover, and create open-ended art experiences. There are no adult-made samples to copy—only the imagination of the artist and materials at hand. There are lots of activities here that you can use as a storytime craft or a preschool art program.

First Art: Art Experiences for Toddlers and Two’s by Mary Ann Kohl with Renee Ramsey and Dana Bowman
Discover the natural curiosity and enthusiasm of toddlers and twos as they explore creative art experiences designed just for them. In First Art, you’ll find 75 art experiences, with over 100 variations that add to the fun, and tips for making the activities run smoothly. There’s even a chapter of special adult-made props, such as an Art Baggie Book to display a child’s artwork, or a table top easel made from a pizza box to catch all the drips. First Art starts children on a journey full of exploration and creativity.

110 amazingly fun and unique art activities for children to experience the styles and techniques of the great artists, from the Renaissance to the present. A brief biography of each artist is included with a fully illustrated, child-tested art activity, featuring painting, drawing, sculpture, photography, architecture and more!

The Big Messy (Bust Easy to Clean Up) Art Book by MaryAnn Kohl
Combine the joy of creativity, the delight of imagination, and the thrill of an art adventure. The Big Messy Art Book opens the door for children to explore art on a
grander, more expressive scale. Paint a one-of-a-kind masterpiece from a swing or try hanging a ball while it moves! With The Big Messy Art Book, you are giving children the opportunity to go beyond the ordinary and into the amazing!

**Picture Books About Art**

The Pencil by Allan Ahlberg and Bruce Ingman
I Ain’t Gonna Paint No More! By Karen Beaumont
The Art Lesson by Tomie dePaola
Hands: Growing Up to Be an Artist by Lois Ehlert
Fancy Nancy Aspiring Artist by Jane O’Connor and Robin Preiss Glasser
Make Van Gogh’s Bed by Julie Appel and Amy Guglielmo
Brush Mona Lisa’s Hair by Julie Appel and Amy Guglielmo
Marc Chagall: Life is a Dream by Brigitta Hopler
Art Dog by Thacher Hurd
Harold and the Purple Crayon by Crockett Johnson
Action Jackson by Jan Greenberg and Sandra Jordan
Bridget’s Beret by Tom Lichtenheld
Art by Patrick McDonnell
I Spy a Lion: Animals in Art by Lucy Micklethwait
The Dot by Peter Reynolds
A Day With No Crayons by Elizabeth Rusch
Beautiful Oops! By Barney Saltzberg
I’m the Best Artist in the Ocean by Kevin Sherry
Lines That Wiggle by Candace Whitman
Art and Max by David Wiesner

Songs and Fingerplays

Painting Fun
Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star
I know the colors for painting fun,
Green like the grass and yellow like the sun,
Orange like a pumpkin, white like the snow,
A ruby rose and a jet black crow.
Blue like a mailbox, brown like an ape,
A little pink pig and some purple grapes.

Katie Draws With One Crayon
Katie draws with one crayon, Make a drawing motion with right hand
One crayon, one crayon, Add right hand
Katie draws with one crayon, Add left foot
Then she draws with two.

Katie draws with two crayons… Add right foot
Katie draws with three crayons… Add right foot
Katie draws with four crayons… Add head
Katie draws with five crayons…
Then she goes to bed.

Color Songs
RED (Sung to: "The Farmer in the Dell")
R-E-D spells red.
R-E-D spells red.
Apples and tomato juice
R-E-D spells red.

YELLOW (Sung to: "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star")
Yellow, yellow is the sun.
Shine on me so I can have fun.
Y-E-L-L-O-W, Y-E-L-L-O-W
Yellow, yellow is the sun.
Shine on me so I can have fun.

BLUE (Sung to: "Are You Sleeping?")
B-L-U-E, B-L-U-E, that spells blue, that spells blue.
The color of the sky, the color of the sky.
B-L-U-E, B-L-U-E.

Read, Yellow, Green, and Blue
Red, yellow, green and blue, green and blue.
Purple, orange, brown and black,
Red, yellow, green and blue green and blue.

**Oh, Rainbow**  
*Sung to: "Oh, Christmas Tree"*
Oh, rainbow, oh, rainbow,  
How lovely are your colors.
Oh, rainbow, oh, rainbow,  
How lovely are your colors.
Purple, red and orange, too,  
Yellow, green and blue so true.
Oh, rainbow, oh, rainbow,  
How lovely are your colors.

**Turning green**  
The blues were unhappy,  
The yellows were, too.  
They wanted to be the same  
What could they do?  
They each took a partner  
And twirled ‘round and ‘round.
Soon they turned green  
And fell on the ground!  
   Jean Warren

**Making Orange Paint**  
*Tune: “Down By The Station”*
Down at the paint store  
Early in the morning.
See the little paint cans  
Standing in a row.  
See the paint worker  
Mix yellow paint, in red.  
Stir, stir, stir, stir  
Now it’s orange paint - instead!  
   Jean Warren

**Let’s Make the Color Pink**  
*Tune: “The Farmer in the Dell”*
Let’s make the color pink.  
Let’s make the color pink.  
Mixing red and white, I think,  
We’ll make the color pink.  
   Elizabeth Scofield
When I Want to Make Gray Paint

_Tune: “Yankee Doodle”_  
When I want to make gray paint.  
I take a paper cup.  
Then I add some black and white  
And stir the paint up.  
Gray is now the paint I see,  
In my little cup.  
I think that I will paint today,  
A lot of gray stuff!  

Jean Warren

Two Little Pain Cans

Two little paint cans, sitting on the floor.  
They knocked over, when I opened up the door.  
As the paint flowed together, I had a big surprise.  
The paint turned to gray, right before my eyes!  

Jean Warren

**Sensory and Movement Activities**

- **Five Crayons:** Challenge the children to draw with more than one crayon at a time. Start with two crayons, and add more. They can hold the crayons in one hand or in two hands or, if ready, they can try to hold a crayon with their toes.

- **Textured Paint:** Create textured paints by adding sand and sawdust to regular tempera paint. Provide drawing paper, tempera paint, and sponges shaped like animals. Invite the children to make sponge print animals with the paint like in Denise Fleming’s, *Barnyard Banter*.

**Craft Ideas**

**Make Your Own Foam Paint Swatters**  

**What you will need…**

- Foam stickers
- Square foam pieces
Craft sticks
Glue
Stapler
Paint
Paper
Paint brushes

Have the children staple the foam square to a craft stick then have them add foam stickers in any shape they like. Then direct the children to brush the paint on their foam swatter. The children can either dip the swatters in paint or paint them with a brush so they can add different colors. And then they give a little swat on the paper! The results are fun and colorful!

**Splatter Painting**
Do a splatter painting like Action Jackson.  

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Create a Mini Art Museum
Q-Tip Painting
http://www.notimeforflashcards.com/category/q-tip-painting

Scraps Wood Sculpture
Chalk Paint

Sidewalk paint, or cornflour paint is made by mixing together equal(ish) parts of cornflour and water. To this mixture we added edicol dye (food colouring works just as well). The colors were brilliant.

Textured Paint

Experiment with adding materials to paint to see how the texture changes. Try it out with: flour, sand, Kool-Aid, bubbles, shaving cream, etc.

Painting Toast
http://www.makeandtakes.com/painting-toast

Supplies:
Bread – this works best if you have white bread, the colors show up brighter.
Bowls and Brushes – you need a bowl and brush for each color. I just used my basting brushes I have, but it would be more fun with smaller painting brushes, cleaned or unused.
Food Coloring – we used all 4 colors and you could mix them too.
Milk – whatever kind you have. You don’t need a lot of milk, I had too much in each bowl.
Toaster Oven or Broiler – I have a great toaster oven, but you could easily toast these in the oven.
Fill your bowls with milk and add 2-3 drops of food coloring. Then let the kids paint their toast.