

DIY Scratch Paper

Materials

- Cardboard
- Oil pastels (or wax crayons)
- Black acrylic paint
- Paint brush
- Pointy stick (e.g. bamboo skewer)



Instructions

1. Use the oil pastels to completely cover the cardboard in bright colours.
2. Paint a layer of black paint over the oil pastel colours.
3. Leave the paint to dry.
4. Use a pointy stick to scratch a design into the black paint, revealing the bright colours below.



What happens?

When the acrylic paint dries on the oil pastel, it sticks well enough to hold it in place, but the paint and oil pastel do not stick together very firmly. The pastels are oil based, whereas acrylic paint is water based so the paint scratches easily away from the oil pastels. Rubbing the oil pastel colours on the cardboard makes them stick firmly, so the colours are not easily scratched away by the pointy stick.

Related activities

Try creating a wax relief picture. Draw a picture on white paper using white oil pastels or wax crayons. Reveal the hidden picture by painting over the drawing with a wash of watercolour paint or watered down acrylic paint.

