

Shadow Art



Sun

P

Preschoolers
2.5 - 4 years

Shadow drawing is a great way to get children outside and to experiment with light. Plus, this is a great activity for older children and adults who might not be the best drawers!

Learning Outcomes

Domain:

Cognitive

Indicator:

Presenting their ideas to others through drawings, telling, music and movement

Skills:

Communicating Findings



Materials

- White drawing paper
- Pencil crayons, crayons or markers
- Objects that will cast a shadow
- The sun!



Instructions

Step 1: Place your paper down on a flat surface outside in the sun.

Step 2: Place on the bottom of the paper an animal/figure to trace. Ensure it casts a shadow on the paper. You may need to experiment with the placement of the paper and object to get it to cast a shadow.

Step 3: Once the shadow on the paper appears, take your colored pencils/markers/crayons and trace around the shadow.

Step 4: Once fully traced, color in the object or add multiple shadows on one page to create a busy picture!



Age Adjustments

For older preschoolers: Take this project to a larger scale by tracing people on the sidewalk using chalk.

For younger toddlers: Younger children will love this activity as it clearly outlines the shape for them to trace. Encourage them to hold the writing utensil with the pincer grasp (thumb and first finger).



Playful Questions

- Do the shadows look different in the afternoon and evening?
- How can we arrange the objects on the paper to create depth?
- What would happen if we did this activity with an object that has holes in it?
- What object should we trace next?