

Collaborative Tree Painting

Painting



ConnectABILITY.ca

WHAT MAKES IT MEANINGFUL

Collaborative tree painting is an enriching activity that combines creativity, teamwork, and artistic expression. This activity is meaningful because it allows participants to work together to create a shared artwork, fostering a sense of community and collective accomplishment. By contributing individual elements to a larger piece, participants learn about cooperation, compromise, and the value of each person's contribution to a group effort. The process of creating a tree painting also offers a visual representation of growth and unity, symbolizing how diverse ideas and talents can come together to produce something beautiful. This activity not only enhances artistic skills but also promotes social interaction and team building, leading to a more engaged and connected group.

TIME

The activity typically takes between 60 to 90 minutes, including preparation, painting, and clean-up time.

MATERIALS

- Large canvas or mural paper (about \$15-\$30)
- Acrylic paints in various colours (about \$10-\$20 per set)
- Brushes in different sizes (about \$5-\$15 per set)
- Palette for mixing paints (about \$3-\$7)
- Easels or stands (optional, about \$15-\$30 each)
- Paper towels or rags (about \$2 per roll)
- Cups of water for cleaning brushes (free if provided)
- Aprons or old shirts (about \$2-\$5 each)
- Drop cloths or protective coverings for tables (about \$5)



INSTRUCTIONS

1. Set up a large canvas or mural paper on an easel or flat surface. Distribute acrylic paints, brushes, and palettes to participants. Explain that the goal is to collaboratively paint a tree, with each participant contributing to different aspects of the tree's design, such as branches, leaves, or background elements.
2. Begin by sketching a basic outline of the tree on the canvas. This could be done by the instructor or as a group effort. Divide the canvas into sections if needed, assigning each section to different participants or teams. Provide guidance on painting techniques and encourage participants to use their creativity to add unique details to their sections.
3. As participants paint, encourage them to communicate and coordinate with each other to ensure that their sections blend seamlessly into the overall tree design. Once the painting is complete, review the artwork as a group and discuss the experience. Allow the painting to dry thoroughly before handling.

RESOURCES

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=reeja7uP0QM>

SUPPORTS NEEDED

- Ensure that there is a facilitator or instructor present to provide guidance and support throughout the activity.
- Provide clear instructions and demonstrations on how to use the materials and paint effectively.
- Consider having additional assistants available to help with setting up, managing supplies, and offering individual support as needed.

OTHER THINGS TO NOTE

- Encourage participants to collaborate and discuss their ideas before starting to paint to ensure a cohesive design.
- Be mindful of any allergies or sensitivities to art supplies and provide alternatives if necessary.
- Have cleaning supplies on hand for any spills or accidents and remind participants to handle materials and finished artwork with care.

