

# Verge DIY Kids Pack

Toddlers +

## PAINT SHAPES WITH SPONGES

Learn about shapes, formal elements of art, and abstract art with sponges and paint.

This packet includes instructions for the activity and a lesson on abstract art and formal elements.

### **What you'll need from around the house:**

Sponges

Permanent marker

Scissors

Paper

Paint\*

Small trays or a paper plate to hold paint

Old table cloth or newspaper to cover the table

\*If you don't have paint check out our natural dyes packet to make your own!



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## Paint with Sponges

### Before you start:

Grown-ups you'll want to use the scissors to cut your sponges into different shapes. Let your kid suggest shapes to cut out. Use a permanent marker to outline shapes on the sponges first, then use the scissors to cut out your shapes. These shapes will be used to paint onto the paper.



### Good ideas for shapes:

Rectangle

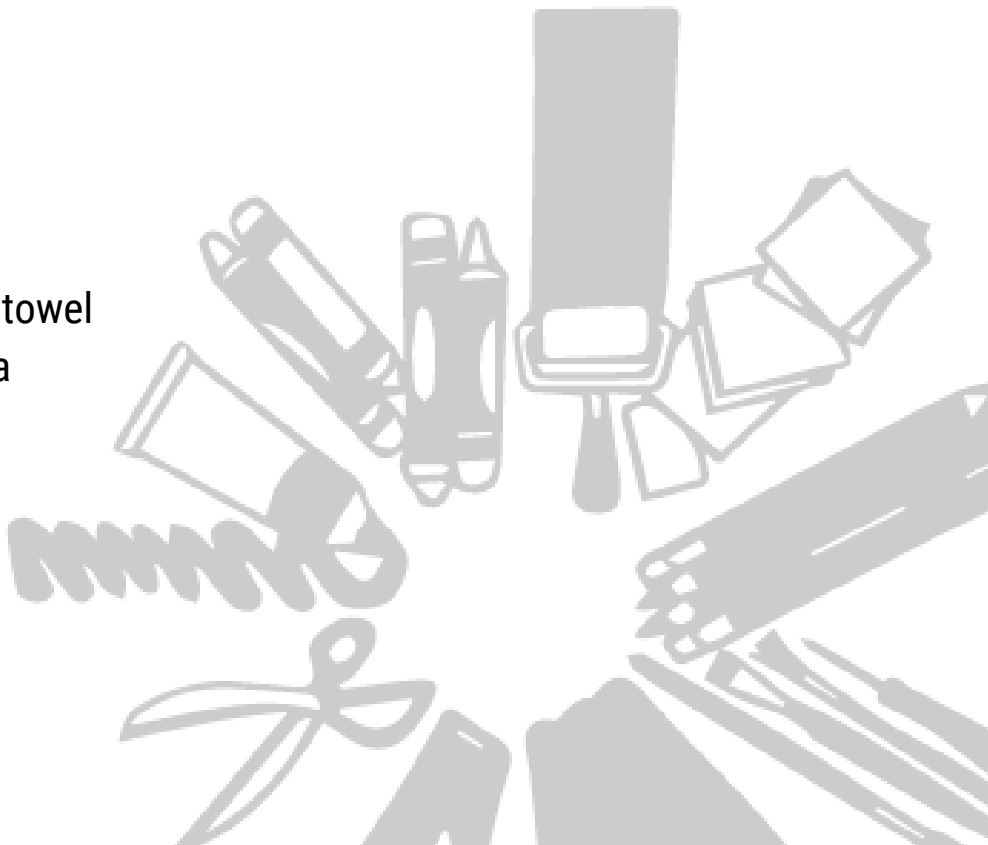
Square

Heart

Triangle

Circle

Pro Tip: Use an empty paper towel or toilet paper roll to use as a stencil for a circle.



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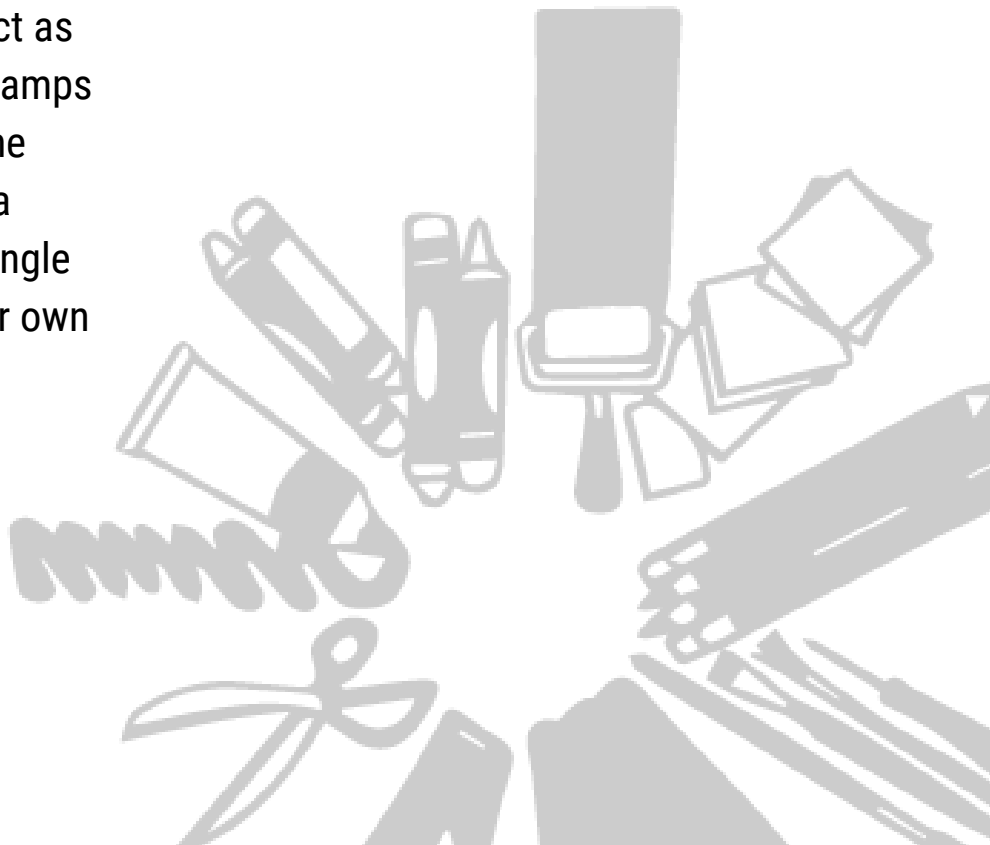


Once your shapes are all cut out its time to prep your area! Make sure to cover the table with your newspaper or old table cloth to protect the surface you're working on.

Prep your paint by pouring a small amount into a tray or onto a paper plate. A thin layer is good to dip the sponges in.

Kids, dip the different sponges in the paint and stamp them onto the paper to make new shapes and designs!

Make your pattern as abstract as you want. You can overlay stamps to create new shapes. Use the circle and triangle to create a flower, a rectangle and a triangle to make a dog, or create your own design!





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## Abstract Art

Abstract art is a work of art that does not attempt to represent reality, but seeks to achieve its effect using shapes, forms, colors, and texture (all formal elements). That means an abstract picture of a flower wouldn't look like a flower you'd find outside.

While you're waiting for your painting to dry, go over the shapes and colors that you used with your littles ones. Ask them to identify shapes and colors, and to match the shape to color. Ask them to find a green triangle, or a red heart. For older kids you can go over the key words below.

## Formal Elements

Formal elements are things like **line, shape, form, tone, texture, pattern, color**. These elements are all used together in a work of art to help make the picture. How these elements are arranged will determine how the final product will look.



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## Abstract Artist Profile: Wassily Kandinsky

Wassily Kandinsky was a Russian abstract artist that lived from December 1866- December 1944. He is best known for his paintings that use bright colors and bold shapes. Kandinsky taught art, and in 1933 he moved to France where he created most of his art.

This painting is called "Circles in a Circle" and was painted in 1923. Kandinsky used **formal elements** to create his art. He did a whole series of paintings that were just focused on circles!

Challenge: What other shapes can you find in this picture?

Clean up and admire your art!



Post pictures of your art on social media with the hashtag **#vergekidsDIY** so we can share it!

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