Water Color Butterflies

In this visual arts lesson, students will create a tye-dyed or water color butterfly to show how colors mix.

Grade Level: K - 2nd
Subject: Arts
Length of Time: About 30 Minutes

Objectives & Outcomes
Learners will be able to create a butterfly with multiple colors in which some colors blend.

Materials Needed

- coffee filters
- washable markers (red, blue, and yellow only)
- spray bottle (water)
- pipe cleaners (can also use clothes pins)
- hair dryer (optional)
- string (for hanging)

Procedure

Opening to Lesson
Begin by telling students they are going to make beautiful, colorful butterflies. Ask students if they have ever seen or owned a tye-dyed shirt or other piece of clothing. Review with students how mixing certain colors will create new colors.

Body of Lesson

- Explain to students that you are going to make butterfly wings out of coffee filters. Have students flatten the filters as much as possible.
- Allow students to color the filters using the washable markers, creating patterns, but leaving some white so colors may blend.
- After each student is finished coloring allow them to lightly spray the filter and watch as colors combine and blend.
- If desired, allow students to dry the filter with a hair dryer or simply lay flat to dry.

Closing
Have students take a pipe cleaner that has been folded in half and place it around the center of the filter. Twist the top to serve as antennae. If desired use a clothes pin as the center (body). Hang butterflies as decoration.
Assessment & Evaluation
Students will be assessed both on participation and final project outcome.

Modification & Differentiation
Students with certain disabilities may need extended time or help spraying the filter.

Related Lesson Plans

Art Outside
In this visual and performing arts lesson, students will explore their artistic skills while becoming more connected with nature. Students will look for fallen plants outside or in the garden and they will use them in the classroom to make art.

Christmas Around the World Part 2
This lesson combines Music and Social Studies. Students will listen to and learn Christmas songs from around the world and analyze.

Shaving Syllables
In this visual arts lesson, students will use a unique medium to create letters, words, and pictures that are easily erased and altered.

Friendship - Accepting Differences
This lesson on "Friendship" integrates Social Studies standards along with Music, Dance, and Visual Arts. The lesson focuses on "accepting differences" and is great for grades K-2.