



Mud painting may be one of the earliest art forms. From building shelters to making pottery, mud has made an impact on our world culture.

This **STEAM** activity for kids will have you investigating different types of mud to create your palette of muddy colors.

Our goal is mixing mud and exploring the different colors and textures of various samples of mud.

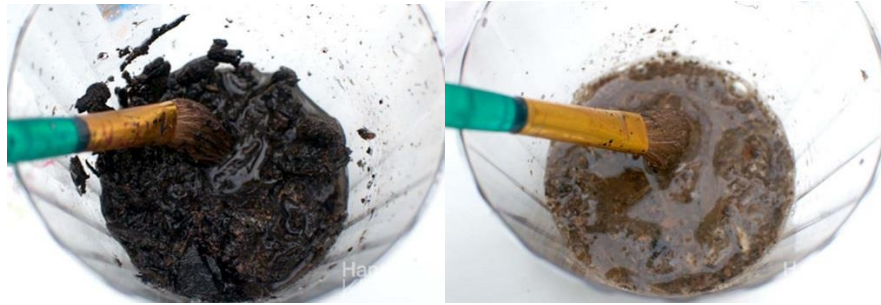
Materials: Different samples of dirt, water, old paint brush, cups, watercolor paper, cookie sheet, tape

Step 1: Prep your paper. Tape your paper to an old cookie sheet or plastic tray, this will help keep the paper in place as your child paints.



Step 2: Mix your paint! Ask your child how do you make mud? Let your child experiment with getting the right consistency of mud. Test it out directly on the paper!

Achieving the right consistency took us several attempts to get a good mix, but everyone had fun making mud.



Mixing Tip: Have an extra cup available to dump out water if the mud paint gets too wet.

Step 3: Paint. Let your child compare and contrast the different colors of mud paint.

Which sample of dirt created the darkest color?

Which sample of dirt created the lightest color?

Try collecting and experimenting with other types of dirt and soil.

When we finished, we recycled our mud paint back into the ground.

Adapted from <https://kidssteamlab.com/mud-painting/#>