

Visual Support Guide: Art Materials

What?

The art materials visual support has pictures of a variety of art supplies and play actions. The visuals can be used as labels on containers to help children understand where to find and return materials. The visuals can help children understand what's available during an art activity, which can support them to engage more independently. You can also use the visuals to help a child who has a language delay or is a dual language learner request an art supply or material.

Why?

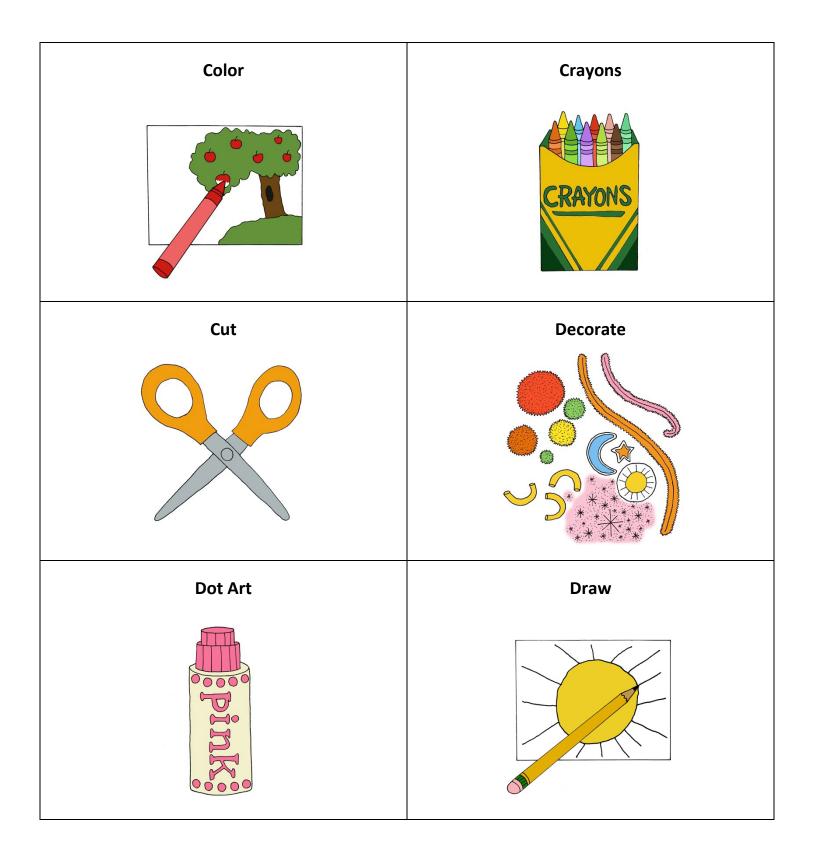
- This visual support can help children who have difficulty completing tasks with multiple steps. Showing the steps of an activity can help children engage in and complete activities with multiple steps.
- You can use the art visual sequence in different ways.
 - Provide a visual sequence of the steps in an activity to help children during a new art project.
 - Provide a visual sequence of the steps to complete the art project when a child misses a step or completes steps out of order.
 - Give a child who has difficulty initiating an activity or persisting with a project more ideas for engaging with art materials.
 - . Use as a communication tool for a child to request or make choices.

How?

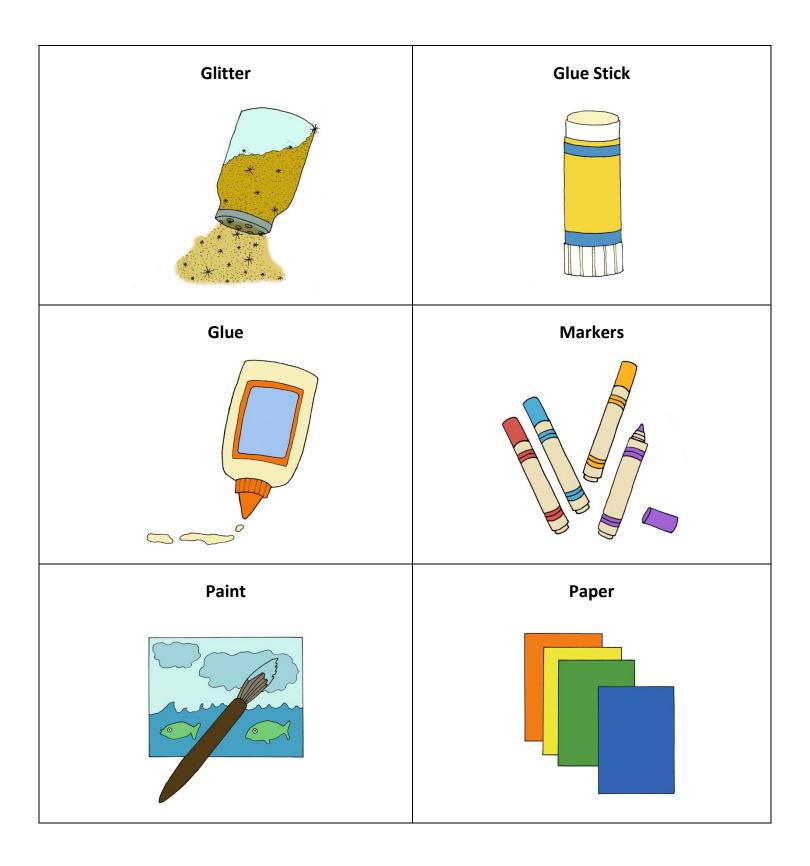
- Make art materials visual supports.
 - Print, laminate, and cut out individual pictures. Translate the names of the art materials in the languages spoken by the children in your learning environment.
 - . To use as labels, cut and laminate. Put on bins or containers of art materials.
 - To use as a "choice board," put the pictures on a single sheet of paper to create a chart and laminate. Put the choice board in the art area or at the table where an art activity will take place.
 - To use as an activity sequence visual, put the pictures on a strip of paper in the correct order displaying the steps of the art activity. Put the activity sequence in the art area or at the table where an art activity will take place.
- Use art materials visual supports.
 - Show the activity sequence visual to the child or children at the beginning of an art activity.
 - Clearly describe the pictures of the art material and the order in which they should be used. You can say, "Use a crayon to draw a shape. Then put glue on the shape. Then add the glitter."

- Support a child when they are choosing a material.
 - Show the visuals on the choice board to the child and ask them, "What do you want to use first?" or "Would you like to paint or color?"
 - Point to each picture as you say the word to help the child understand.

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