



Playing with Chalk!



Maze: Have your child design their own web of squiggly lines, zig zag, curve lines, and other lines with chalk to design a maze to which they can walk, run, hop, jump, cycle, or scooter through. The bigger, more colorful, and more complex the maze, the more fun your child will have working their way through. This is also a great way to practice following 1-step and multi-step directions. For example, "hop on the blue circle" or "first walk on the line, then hop on the circle".

Vocabulary: action verbs (run, jump, walk, spin, hop), prepositions (on, next to, above, between), size (small, medium, big), shapes (circle, square, triangle), pronouns (mine, your, me, my, I, you, we)

Writing/Drawing: Practice writing letters, numbers, shapes, names, pictures, or inspiring messages.

Hopscotch: Is a great way to get the blood pumping while practicing number recognition.

Tic-Tac-Toe: This classic game is an early introduction to problem-solving, strategy, waiting and turn-taking.

Color Hop: Draw circles in different colors close to one another. Call out colors and have your child jump on the right one. For older kids, sequence the colors: "hop from blue to green to yellow" or make it harder: "jump on green, hop on yellow, sit down on blue".

Wet Chalk Art: Just dip the end of your sidewalk chalk in a bit of water and color away! This idea makes the chalk go smoothly and the colors even more bright and vibrant!

Alphabet Hop: Make 26 shapes close to one another and write a letter of the alphabet in each shape. Call out letters to hop from one to another. Have your child help with drawing the shapes and writing the letters.

Sidewalk Twister: Create your own chalk twister board with at least four colors and four shapes and have another child or parent call out instructions as to where children should place their right hands, right feet, left hands, and left feet.

Body Outlines: Have your child lie on the sidewalk and draw an outline of their body. Then have them fill it in with their clothes, hair, and face. Allow your child to trace you too! Talk about what is the same and different about your two outlines.

Obstacle Course: Draw an obstacle course. Lines to jump over, a swirl to spin around on, squares to hop in and out of, and so on. You could even add some other props, like a basketball to dribble.

Shape Game: Draw a random mix of shapes in rows, allow your child to help draw shapes using correct formation. Then, have your child choose a shape and see if they can get from one end of the game to the other by only hopping on the shape they chose.

Guess the Pattern: Draw some basic shapes in a simple pattern and have your child guess what comes next.

Face and Feelings: Draw several circles on the ground with your child and then draw simple faces inside i.e., smiley faces, sad faces, mad faces, etc. Have your child imitate the facial expressions they draw.

Chalk Recipes

Squeezy Sidewalk Chalk

Materials:

- squeezy bottles
- cornstarch
- water
- food coloring

Method:

- Pour your cornstarch in a bowl or container
- Add water and stir until you get a nice thin mixture, you want it to be able to squeeze through the hole in the bottle
- Pour your sidewalk chalk paint into the bottle and add food coloring
- Shake and squeeze away!



Spray Sidewalk Chalk

Materials:

- Spray/Squirt bottles
- Corn Starch
- Baking Soda
- Food Coloring

Method:

- Fill the spray/squirt bottles 1/3 of the way with a baking soda and corn starch mixture, using roughly equal amounts of both ingredients.
- Add a few drops of food coloring or washable watercolors, and then fill the bottles with very warm water, leaving a little space at the top of the bottle.
- Use a butter knife or similar object to stir the mixture as best you can and then place the top on and shake the bottles well. You will want to shake the bottles once more just before play, as some of the corn starch does settle at the bottom of the bottles.



Optional: If you want to make the spray chalk art erupt you will also want a few squirt bottles of vinegar.
Alternative Option: Put chalk and water into spray bottle. Shake until chalk dissolves then spray.

Ice Chalk

Materials:

- Half cornstarch
- Half water (though if you use more water than cornstarch so it is easier to mix)
- Food Coloring
- Dish soap (optional, but makes clean up easier)

Method:

Once you pour this chalk paint mixture into molds and freeze it, you have ice chalk, which you can use like regular sidewalk chalk. (Except it is cold and melty and the perfect sensory experience for a hot summer day.)

Bonus: To make popsicle chalk, substitute washable paint for the food coloring and pour it into popsicle molds. Also use flour in place of the cornstarch.