



Nature Rangoli

Learning Goals: Create your own Rangoli design

Rangoli is an art form, originating in the Indian subcontinent, in which patterns are created on the floor or the ground using materials such as colored rice, dry flour, colored sand or flower petals and more. The Rangoli designs are passed from one generation to the next, keeping both the art form and the tradition alive.

In India, the name Rangoli symbolizes Beauty, Hope, and Tradition. The ritual of drawing Rangoli patterns, a skill handed down from mother to daughter, is considered an auspicious welcome sign.

Rangoli patterns can also be made from rice flour and sugar or materials such as cereals, pulses, grains, sand or beads. The motifs used are usually taken from nature or geometric patterns using lines and shapes, drawn around a circle.



Activity Directions: Answer these Questions:

- Think about where you want to put your Rangoli? For example, can you work outside on the sidewalk, driveway, inside on paper, or even draw on a paper plate?
- How big will it be? What materials will you use? Colored chalk, sand, natural materials, cereals, beads?
- What lines and shapes will you use in your design? For example, swirls, tear drops, flower petals, circles, diamonds, etc.?
- What motifs from Nature will you use? If you can't think of any, use a flower.

Start your Rangoli with a simple circle shape that will be the center of the design. Leave enough room around the center so your design can grow larger. Design a row of shapes that go around the circle. Your design will radiate out and grow with each line, shape and pattern you create.

Reflection Activity:

Share your Rangoli with family, take a picture to share.