



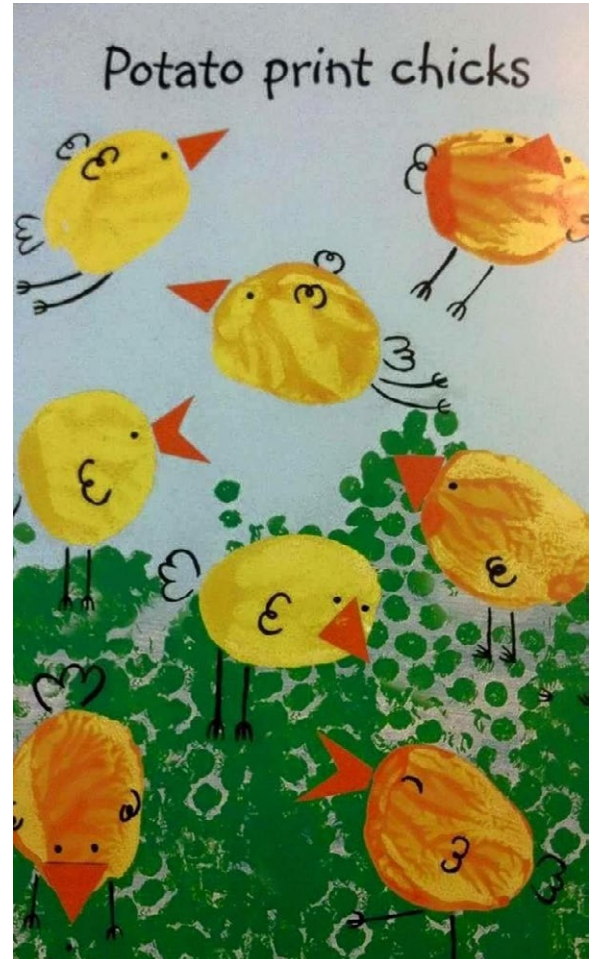
Potato Prints for Easter

This activity is a good one around Easter time, as the natural shape of potatoes lends itself to making eggs and chickens – but you can do it any time.

For pre-school children, you will need to do the Preparation part for them, and show them how to use the potato stamps. Older children won't need as much help, but please supervise them when using knives.

Materials

- You will need:
- Potatoes (smaller white potatoes work best – you can also use apples or corks)
- Knife (adults only!)
- Tempera paint (non-toxic, wash-off poster paint) in several colours
- Paper plates or bowls
- Construction paper or any blank waste paper
- Aluminium foil (optional)
- Paper towel or old towel



Preparation

1. Dress yourself and your children in old, washable clothes.
2. Organise an area to do this activity where you can clean up spilt paint – put out cleaning cloths, sponges etc.
3. Prepare the potatoes by cutting to a size small enough for your child to grasp. You do not need to peel them. Use the cut side to make the 'stamp' shape. Cut away the outside of the cut side of the potato so that a shape, such as a circle, remains in the middle. Repeat for different shapes. The shapes should be about ½ inch deep.
4. Press the open end of the potato onto the towel to help absorb the moisture.
5. Pour paint into paper plates/bowls for easy dipping. Quite a small quantity of paint is enough – you can always add more, but if you put out too much, it is more likely to get spilt.



Week Twenty Four



Potato Print Art

Show your child how to dip the potato into the paint and use it to make prints on paper.

Older children may enjoy making a scene with Easter eggs, chickens, rabbits etc. Younger children will probably just want to try out different shapes and colours.

As you make prints with your child, discuss the different shapes and colours.

If you want to make the same shape with a different colour, just wash the paint off the potato, dry thoroughly, then dip in the new colour of paint.

For an added twist, use foil instead of construction paper for printing. Notice how shiny the foil looks!

You could use the finished art work to wrap an Easter gift.

If you want instructions for Easter Bunny Potato Stamps, visit Handmade Potato Bunny Stamps for Kids (premeditatedleftovers.com)

