

Materials You'll Need:

- Large tray, baking sheet with sides, or plastic tablecloth
- Unscented shaving cream (foam, not gel)
- Washable liquid paint or food coloring (various colors)
- Cardstock or thick paper (optional, for making prints)
- Smock or old clothes
- Wipes or damp cloth for cleanup

Let's Get Messy! Shaving Cream Art Adventure

Getting Ready (Grown-up Prep):

1. Find a space that's easy to clean, like a tiled floor or outdoors.
2. Put the smock on your little artist.
3. Place the tray or tablecloth on the work surface.

Sensory Exploration Time:

1. Spray a pile of shaving cream onto the tray. Just a nice fluffy cloud!
2. Invite your child to touch it! Ask questions: *"How does it feel? Is it soft? Squishy? Cold? Fluffy?"*
3. Let them spread it around with their hands. Encourage swirls, pats, and wiggles. This is great for finger and hand muscles!
4. Now, add a few drops of one color of paint or food coloring onto the shaving cream.
5. Ask your child, *"What color is this?"* Let them swirl the color into the white cream. Watch how it mixes!
6. Add another color! *"What happens when the colors mix together?"* Explore color mixing in a fun, tactile way.
7. Encourage them to draw shapes, lines, or just enjoy the feeling of moving the colorful foam around. There's no right or wrong way!

Optional Fun - Making Prints:

1. Once they've swirled lots of colors, gently lay a piece of cardstock on top of the shaving cream design.
2. Pat it down lightly all over.
3. Carefully lift the paper off. It will be covered in colorful foam!
4. Use the edge of a ruler or a piece of cardboard (grown-up job) to gently scrape off the excess shaving cream. The colorful pattern will remain!
5. Let the print dry completely.

Clean Up:

Most of the shaving cream can be wiped off hands and the tray with wipes or a damp cloth. A quick hand wash afterwards is a good idea!

Talk About It:

"What was your favorite part? Did you like how the shaving cream felt? What colors did you make?"