

## Mouse Paint



Ellen Stoll Walsh

The project on the next page goes along with the book *Mouse Paint* written by Ellen Stoll Walsh.

If you don't have this book, click [here](#) to listen to the book read aloud by a member of The Ringling's Education Staff!

In this story, three little white mice hop into Mouse Paint jars colored red, yellow, and blue. With their new colored fur, the mice play in the paint puddles they left behind. But wait! Putting their red feet in the yellow puddles makes orange! Blue feet in red puddles makes purple! And yellow feet in blue puddles makes green!

For the art activity on the next page, we'll be making our own colors using little cotton ball mice. What colors can you make and what can you design with them?



Paul Jenkins (American, 1923 - 2012), *Phenomena Mistral Nordique*, 1966. Acrylic on canvas, 51 x 38 in. Museum purchase, 1974. SN942

### MUSEUM CONNECTION

This project was inspired by the painting *Phenomena Mistral Nordique* by Paul Jenkins.

Jenkins also used something other than a paintbrush to create his artwork. Just as you used a cotton ball, he used an ivory knife to spread color around the canvas. Look at the top left of the painting, red and blue are mixing together to make purple! Do you see any colors mixing together to make new ones? Are they the same colors you made today in your own artwork?

### STANDARDS:

LAFS.K.RL.1.3

LAFS.K.RF.4.4

VA.K.S.1.1

# ACTIVITY

## MOUSE PAINT

**MATERIALS:**  
COTTON BALL; RED, YELLOW, AND BLUE PAINT;  
PAPER

DIFFICULTY LEVEL:  
**SIMPLE**



### DIRECTIONS:

1. Pour a small amount of each color paint onto a plate and keep them far apart.
2. Take your cotton ball "mouse" and dip it in two different colors. What color did it make?
3. Find out what different colors you can make with just red, yellow, and blue paint.
4. Now use those colors to paint whatever you want! You can use your cotton ball mice to paint or use your fingers.

### WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE WHAT YOU CREATE!

Click [here](#) to share your masterpiece on our Family Programs Facebook Group!

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