**ART ACTIVITY:**

Making Chalk Paint

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**TIME NEEDED:** 40 minutes

**AGE:** All ages

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

**Knowledge:** Rock and geology (local rock)

**Skills:** Making skills, free drawing

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**MATERIALS:**

- Chalk! If you’re in a chalk area this can be collected in rocks from hill sides or woods etc. Or you can order it online in powder form as calcium carbonate. It is much more fun to grind it down from actual rock.
- Blunt eating knives for scraping (not plastic), to grind the chalk from rock to powder.
- Plastic plates or tubs, for collecting the powder
- Water pots and brushes
- Food colourings and pipettes
- Black paper, as big as possible
- Aprons and latex gloves – this is messy and food colourings are permanent

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**INSTRUCTIONS FOR CHILDREN:**

Grind the chalk with the knives and mix it with water and food colours to make paint. Paint onto black paper. Maybe paint chalk fossils, animals and plants that grow on grasslands or chalky woods. Other chalk formations might include coastal features such as chalk cliffs, arches and needles.

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**FOLLOW UP…**

1) With an adult, find out how chalk is formed. (It is an accumulation of plankton or algae (coccolithophores) in deep sea environments forming over millions of years.) [Link here.]

See pictures of chalk coccoliths [here](#).

2) See what artists can create in chalk [here](#) and [here](#).

3) See what an amazing teacher has created [here](#).