



### **Activity #9:**

#### **Rock Face Paint!**

*Creativity, Collaboration, Communication, & Fun!*

(Preparation: 5 minutes / Activity Time: 20-30 minutes)

#### **What Will You Need?**

- Paint brush (at least one, but more if you have them!) or feel free to finger-paint (*DO NOT USE expensive makeup brushes! They may be ruined by this activity*)
  - A cup for water
  - A paper towel or cloth rag for drying/wiping your brush between colors and to clean up any spills
  - A variety of different colored rocks - these will give you slightly different earth-tone colors
  - A willing face for face paint! (If painting your own face, having a mirror is helpful)
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#### **Instructions:**

1. Find a few rocks outside (at least two!) - don't worry, they will still be intact when we're finished and can be returned to where they came from when we're done  
*(Tip: Smooth, "soft" rocks work best, ones that make a gritty dust when rubbed together - hard mineral stones like quartz are difficult to break down and get color)*
2. At their widest point, each rock should be no bigger than an Orange & no smaller than a Grape
3. Once you have your rocks collected, rinse them off to remove any dirt on the surface
4. Using a paint brush or a finger, dip your brush/finger into the water cup and dab a bit of water onto one of the rocks
5. Use another rock and begin to grind the two rocks together on the wet spot - small circular motions or small back-and-forth motions work well
6. You'll start to see a grey, brown, black, tan, or reddish color start to form on the wet spot (the color depends on the types of minerals that make up the rock - see if you can get

different colors by grinding different rocks together!)

7. If too pasty (dry), or your grinding is not creating a paint-like substance, try adding a little more water to the rock
8. Once you have your rock face paint prepared, use a finger or a brush to collect some right off of the rock surface, and start face painting! Gently smear the rock face paint onto the cheeks, chin, or forehead. PLEASE BE CAREFUL to avoid the eyes, ears, and nose!
9. If the rock paint begins to dry on the surface of the rocks, just dab on a bit more water and grind the rocks together again to create more
10. Once finished with the activity, please return the rocks to where they came from, and when you are ready for the face paint to come off, simply rinse with water and wipe off with a wet cloth

Have Fun!