

Chalk Blocks

O - 'Ohana goal (Why do the activity?) Family goal

Purpose:

- How can I incorporate learning in to play time?
- For younger keiki, playing with side-walk chalk can enhance academic knowledge like color recognition, sorting and matching. It can also be used as a tool to strengthen fine motor skills and practice drawing and writing shapes, letters and numbers.
- For older keiki, side-walk chalk encourages a love for art and creativity.



'Ōlelo No'eau: "O ke kahua ma mua, ma hope ke kūkulu"
The foundation first, then the building.

Benefits: Allowing your keiki to create his/ her own Chalk Blocks will *enhance academic knowledge, strengthen fine motor skills, and encourage artistic abilities and creativity.*

H - Ha'awina (Let's do the activity) Lesson, Assignment, Task

Materials:

- Side-walk chalk
- Wood or blank wood blocks



Process:

1. Cut up an old piece of wood OR use blank wood blocks (if accessible).
 - An adult will do the cutting or supervise older keiki in this cutting process.
2. Lightly sand wood blocks, and smooth down (if need).
3. Make a space for your keiki to freely create his/ her own blocks.
4. Rinse the blocks with water, let dry and create again!



Tips: Remember that learning can be FUN!

- Practice writing letters, making words, spelling name(s)
- Draw shapes, make patterns, sort colors
- Build

Be creative and allow creativity.

A-Alaka'i (What did you learn? What can you teach?) To lead, Guide, Direct

Extension activities:

- Create a game with your blocks (ex. make dice, game pieces, etc.)
- Try some other fun side-walk chalk activities;
 - Have someone trace yourself and draw a self-portrait
 - Make an exercise obstacle course OR an Ultimate Hopscotch
 - Create a life-size mural
 - Write fun & inspirational messages for your family and neighbors
- No chalk, no problem! Make your own DIY Side-walk Chalk Paint. (See recipe below or go to link; <https://www.argofoodservice.com/recipe/DIY-Homemade-Sidewalk-Chalk-Paint>)

Observe: Things to think about...

What did you create with your blocks? Did you use math, spelling, reading?
Think like an architect and build something huge and extraordinary.



DIY HOMEMADE SIDEWALK CHALK PAINT

 PREP: 5 MIN

 MAKES: 3 CUPS OF PAINT, ½ CUP OF EACH COLOUR,
FOR 6 COLOURS



The kids will love this! Easier than drawing with chalk, this paint can be made thin or thicker depending on how rich you want your colors. Use more water and larger brushes for more ease of painting. A great, inexpensive outdoor activity for the kids!

INGREDIENTS

3 cups Argo® Corn Starch

2-4 dashes food colouring, various colours

3 cups water, use more or less depending on desired consistency

Equipment:

4-6 plastic bowls, or a 6-cup muffin pan works great as a paint tray

Paint brushes, preferably 1" or larger

Food colouring

DIRECTIONS

This recipe can be made with smaller amounts too, using equal parts of corn starch and water. Using a large mixing bowl, add the water to the cornstarch and mix well until clumps are gone. Divide equal amounts into your separate bowls, add a few drops of food colouring to each bowl to create your colours, mixing well.

While painting you'll want to keep your colours looking vibrant, use your paint brush to give the paint a stir as the corn starch will settle on the bottom.

The colours will look more brilliant as the paint dries. Works great on all types of sidewalks and driveways. Try painting some garden rocks too. Clean-up is a breeze, washes away easily with water, or let the rain take care of it. Non-toxic and safe for the gardens, it will actually help the soil retain moisture better!

Storage: can be stored in jars with tight lids for a few days, shake well when ready to use again.

