

SUPPLY LIST for mixed-media beach scene:

**\*\*\* Please do not leave young children unattended with paints and small beads, shells, etc.! \*\*\***

An old tee-shirt or apron to protect clothing

Canvas (9 x 12" or 8 x 10")

A ruler or other straight edge

A sharp pencil

Some sheets of newsprint

A paper plate for a palette

A variety of paintbrushes for craft or acrylic paints

A toothbrush

One small bottle (2 oz.) of acrylic craft paint in each the follow colors:

Blue Cotton, Spring Green, Laguna, Snow White, Golden Sunset,

Territorial Beige, Pumpkin Orange, Bright Yellow, Cobalt Blue

A small bottle of glitter glue (silver) (about 3 oz.)

A bottle of Elmer's standard school glue (dries clear)

Several toothpicks

A spoonful of golden seed beads

8 or more small shells



Note: If you are completing the project with multiple children, you will need multiples of most items listed. The paint bottles themselves hold enough for several children. We had ten or so actually participating the night we did this art project, and we did not use more than two bottles of any color. (I did have my older girls helping younger children get out their paint though so to minimize waste.)

How to make a mixed-media beach scene:

1. Place your canvas on newsprint and divide it into thirds, using two horizontal lines. (Use a ruler for a straight edge and draw a light pencil line – bottom third for beach, middle third for sea, top third for sky.)
2. Use a straight-edged brush and horizontal strokes to paint the top third in Blue Cotton.
3. Wipe excess paint from your brush on a corner of the newsprint; then paint strips and patches of Spring Green on the middle third (still horizontal strokes, but do not cover entire third. Leave some white patches).
4. Again wipe excess paint from your brush. While the Spring Green is still wet, top the entire middle third with Laguna (a bluish aqua).
5. Using a small pointed brush, make some Snow White horizontal lines on the sea surface (indicating ripples on the water). Immediately smooth over these broken white lines with the still-wet “Laguna” brush.
6. Wash your brushes.
7. Using the straight-edged brush and horizontal strokes, paint the bottom third of the canvas with Golden Sunset.
8. Using a smaller straight-edged brush, paint over the ocean with a good coating of glitter glue (silver). Use horizontal strokes. Wash your brushes.
9. Allow your canvas to dry for a few minutes; then lightly cover the top two-thirds with a piece of scrap paper to protect them during the next step.
10. Dip the bristles of a toothbrush in Territorial Beige. Hold your pointer finger (palm side of hand facing up) over the “beach.” Hold the toothbrush horizontally over the end of the pointer finger. Now draw the toothbrush bristles in hard, short strokes across the tip of the finger, allowing the flecks of paint to speckle the beach.
11. Rotate your entire canvas so that the “sky” is now at the bottom. Trace a large circle (approx. 2” if using a 9 x 12” canvas) on one side of the sky and use a small brush to paint it Pumpkin Orange. Work carefully in short, circular strokes.
12. While the Pumpkin Orange is still wet, paint over it with Bright Yellow, still using short, circular strokes and blending the colors of the sun as you work. Wash your brushes.
13. Turn your canvas so the beach is at the bottom again. Choose 6-8 small shells and place them on the beach until you like the arrangement. Then glue them, using Elmer’s school glue. Turn a shell upside down and glue around the edge; press it immediately to the canvas and hold it firmly for a few moments. Repeat until you have glued all your shells.
14. Use a toothpick to put a couple dots of glue (at a time) on the surface of the sun. Press a small gold seed bead into each dot. Repeat as many times as desired. You may wish to make gold sparkles all over the surface of your sun, or you may wish to glue the beads in a circle around the circumference.
15. Lastly, use a small pointed brush dipped in Cobalt Blue to make two wide loose V shapes for silhouettes of gulls in the sky. Your beach scene is finished! Great job!
16. Wash any remaining brushes and clean up your work area.