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# Painting Rocks and Paper

Lulu and the bug squad paint rocks and paper. Children can paint a rock or paper too.



**Activity works best with:** Individual child, small groups, classrooms/libraries and activity stations at large events

**Materials:** A copy of *Ladybug Girl and the Bug Squad*; markers (to write names); paint brushes; brightly colored paint (a variety of colors); cups or containers to hold paint; smooth, clean rocks (wash them if necessary); stacks of paper; newspaper (to cover the tables)

**Materials cost:** \$-\$\$

**Preparation:** Set up tables by putting newspaper down underneath containers of paint. Make several colors available to children. Put pieces of paper and rocks out on the tables, too, so that children can reach them. Place paint brushes near the spaces that individual children can work.

**Preparation time:** Low

**Introduction:** Show children the page where Lulu and the bug squad sit down at the picnic table to paint rocks and paper. Point out some of the things that the bug squad paints. Lulu paints her rock red to look like a ladybug. Kiki paints her rock purple to look like Pluto, a planet. Painting on paper, Marley makes a dragon playing soccer and Sam paints a robot.

**Activity:** Support children in choosing either a rock or a piece of paper to paint on, and either write their names or encourage them to write their names on it. Help children make choices about which colors of paint they would like to use. As children paint, engage them in conversations about their painting. Ask open-ended questions about what they plan to paint. Make connections to *Ladybug Girl and the Bug Squad*; notice if children's plans for painting are similar to the paintings that members of the bug squad make.

**Tips for conversation:** Use detailed descriptions and rich language to acknowledge children's painting. Extend what children have said, and describe what you see children painting. Use words like **antennae**, **smooth**, **wings**, **secret**, and **imagination**.

**Learning Connection:** Children develop vocabulary as they paint freely and talk about their work to an adult.

