Beautiful Glue Batik

Batik is highly decorated fabric. The process originated in Indonesia. It is made by melting wax and painting it on fabric. The fabric is then dyed and the wax resists the dye.

There are many traditional geometric patterns and patterns that represent shapes found in nature in Indonesian batik. When we create our batiks, feel free to draw whatever inspires you - free form shapes, animals, flowers, etc.

Suggested supplies:
Elmers Washable Gel Glue, fabric paint, small cups or containers for paint, cotton fabric scrap or t-shirt, paintbrushes, a piece of cardboard

Alternative supplies:
acrylic paint, food coloring, markers, flour and water

Step 1: Lay your fabric scrap on top of your cardboard. If you are using a t-shirt, put the cardboard inside the shirt.

Step 2: Use your glue to “draw” a picture on your fabric. Let it dry overnight.

Step 3: The next day, put a little bit of fabric paint in your cups and thin with water. Paint your fabric - the dried glue will resist the paint. Again, let it dry overnight.

Step 4: After it is dry, wash your fabric in a sink of hot water and soap. Scrub with your fingers or a brush - the glue will dissolve.

Enjoy your beautiful art!

Alternate method:
Acrylic paint and food coloring are also permanent and can be painted onto your fabric. If you don’t have these items, you can soak markers in a cup of water to make “paint.” Marker paint will not be permanent, so do not wash out your glue!

If you do not have this gel glue, mix 1/2 cup of flour with a 1/2 cup of water to make a paste. Put it in a squeeze bottle and draw with the paste. Allow to dry. Paint fabric and dry again. Knock off the dried flour/water paste.

When you finish your batik, share a picture in Facebook messenger to Discovery Center!

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