

EARTH SCIENCE SERIES

MAKE A PAINTING OF OUR BLUE PLANET

Why is Earth called the Blue Planet? Because 75% of its surface is covered with water! During the day when astronauts observe the Earth from space, the land appears mostly green while some white clouds float through our atmosphere. You can swirl colors together to make your tribute to our planet.

MATERIALS AND STEPS

- A paper plate
- A spoon
- Shaving cream
- Food coloring or liquid watercolors

This activity can be a little messy so make sure you cover your surface before you start!

Start by completely covering your paper plate with shaving cream. Next, add a few drops of green and blue food coloring or watercolors across the plate. Use your spoon or even your fingers to swirl and mix the colors through the shaving cream. You can look at a photo of the Earth for inspiration or just mix the colors however you like.

Share your masterpiece on social media using #AtTheMuseums

THINGS TO TALK ABOUT

How did the shaving cream smell? How did it feel? How did it look while it was wet? What about after it dried? How is working with shaving cream different from working with paint?

What do you think life is like on the International Space Station? Have you ever imagined viewing the Earth from outer space? How do you think the astronauts feel looking down on their own planet?

FUN FACT

Did you know that astronauts sometimes read picture books to children from the international space station? Visit StoryTimeFromSpace.com or follow [@storytimefromspace](https://www.facebook.com/storytimefromspace) on Facebook and [@StoryTimeSpace](https://twitter.com/StoryTimeSpace) on Twitter to learn more.

