

Big Idea! – Paintbrushes can be used in different ways.

Artists experiment with their paintbrushes. Explore making different types of marks and mixing colors.

Materials – Collect these items from home or your art kit.

- watercolor pan set
- white paper
- watercolor paintbrush
- paper towel
- cup of water

See an artist use a paintbrush: www.studioinstitute.org

LOOK – Artists use paintbrushes in different ways. Look at your paintbrush. The bristles (hairs) are soft and we must use our



brush gently, as if we are just barely touching or tickling our paper with the bristles.

Watercolor is special because you can see-through the paint. When using watercolor, you fill the bristles of the brush with water to make a see-through (translucent) color. You can mix colors on your paper. It is best to rinse your brush between colors.



CREATE - Let's explore how you can use watercolors.

1. **Dip** your paintbrush into water and wet the tip.
2. Choose your favorite color. Dip your **wet paintbrush** into the **watercolor paint**. You have to brush the paint gently with water to wake it up! **Brush** your paint onto the **paper**. The watercolor should be see-through on your paper. How does it look?
3. Try **adding more water**. What happens when you use **more** or **less** water?
4. Wash your brush in you water cup. Make sure to rinse between colors!
5. How can the **brush travel around your paper**? Make different types of **lines and marks** on your paper. I wonder how to make a **tiny thin lines** or **wide thick lines**.
6. What happens when **two colors** meet on your paper? I wonder what would happen if you **mixed two colors** on the paper.
7. Try painting some **shapes** by **connecting your lines**.



Painting Explorers: *Watercolor Painting Exploration*

For video demonstrations visit:
www.studioinstitute.org

SHARE

1. Share with a family member how your paintbrush moved across your paper.
2. What happened when you gently touched your paper with your paintbrush?
3. What did you discover when two colors mix? What colors did you make?
4. What is an interesting way that you used your paintbrush?
5. Share your artwork with us. Email them to: myart@studioinstitute.org

Read an ART book together – *Color Dance* by Ann Jonas
(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=31_smhOzIFE)

More PRACTICE: Try some of your paintbrush skills in the space below.

