

## Independence Day – July 4, 2011

- The Liberty Bell was rung when the Declaration of Independence was adopted on July 4, 1776. It was rung again on each Fourth of July until 1846, when a small crack had grown to the point that the bell could no longer be used. Other bells are still rung at Independence Day celebrations.
- This holiday celebrates the day the United States of America officially became a country. It's the birthday of our country.
- Fireworks have been used to celebrate important events throughout our history and were a part of the very first Independence Day festivities in 1777.

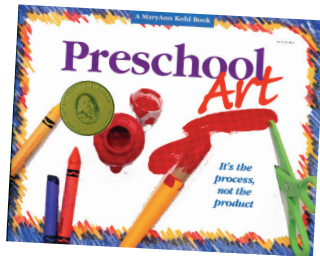


### Spray Painting

(Taken from [Preschool Art](#))

#### Materials and Preparations:

- Heavy white paper
- Tempera paints (mix to a medium consistency)
- Paintbrushes
- Spray bottle filled with water (set on spray, not stream)



#### Learning Experiences:

- Place the heavy white paper outdoors on a flat surface such as the grass or inside on a covered floor. Hanging the paper on a fence so all the paint runs down is another option.
- Drip paint from brushes onto the paper.
- Spray clear water from the spray bottle on the drops of paint.
- Paint drops will thin, spread, and mix.

**Variation:** Sprinkle dry tempera paint on heavy butcher paper and spray with water. Do this project on a rainy day and carry outside into the rain to moisten.

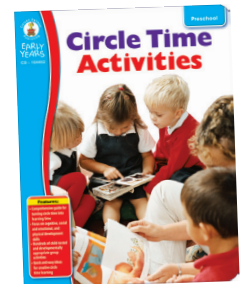
### Froggy Freeze

(Taken from [Circle Time Activities](#))

#### Materials and Preparations:

- Colored masking tape
- Music

In a wide open space in the classroom or outside, encourage children to hop like frogs, crouching down and then springing forward. Place several masking tape X's (at least one per child) on the floor/ground and ask each "frog" to hop to one. When the music starts, the frogs will hop around the floor. When the music stops, say "Froggy Freeze!" and each frog should hop to an X and freeze until the music starts again.



## Floating Paint

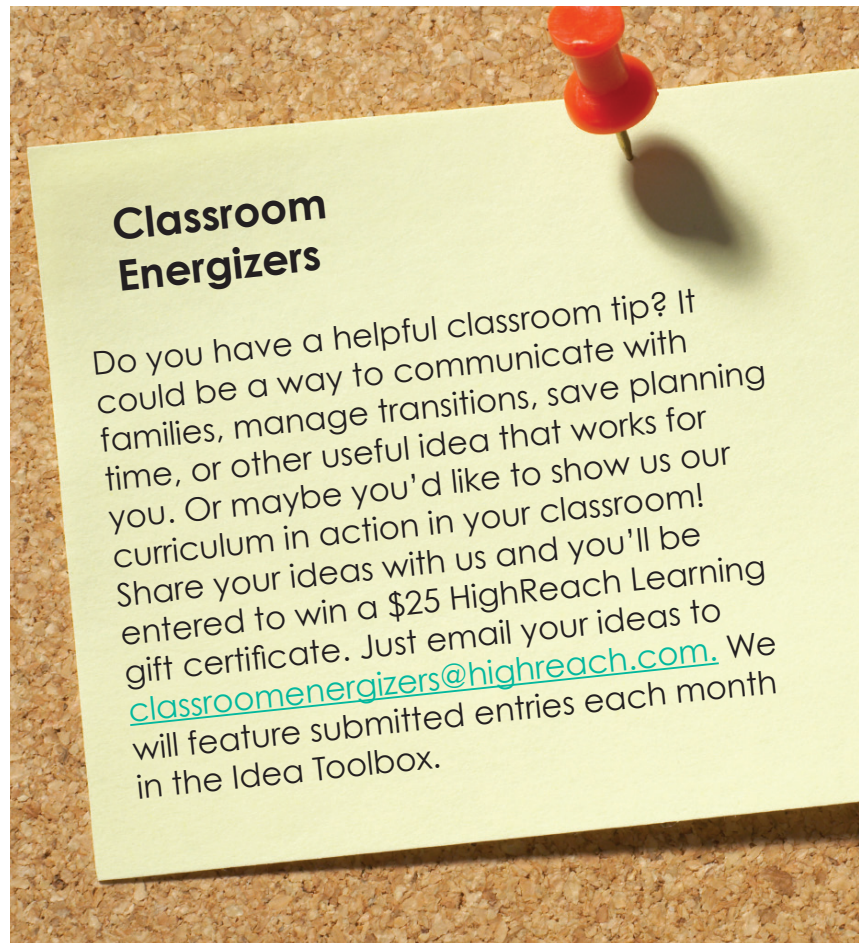
(Taken from [Curriculum for Twos, Splish and Splash](#))

### Materials and Preparations:

- Oily paint (mix 1 tablespoon powdered tempera paint with 5 tablespoons oil; repeat to make several colors)
- Water in shallow pans
- Plastic spoons
- White construction paper

### Learning Experiences:

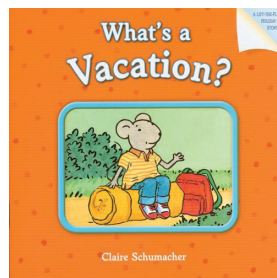
- Set water in shallow pans on the table. Use plastic spoons to dribble small amounts of oily paint on the water. Wow! It floats! Carefully lay paper flat on the surface of the water, then lift.
- The paint will create interesting designs on the paper. What do children see? What do the blobs of paint look like? a boat? a seashell?
- Children may want to repeat, using different colors or a combination of colors.



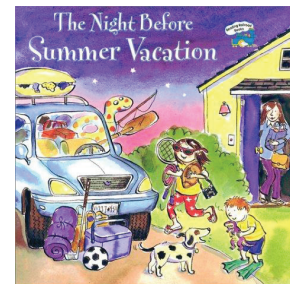
## Books to Share



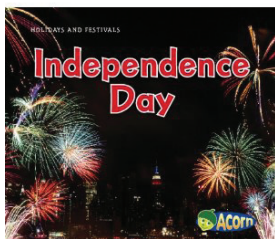
*Touch and Feel Summer*  
by Roger Priddy



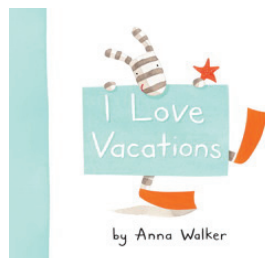
*What's a Vacation?*  
by Harriet Ziefert



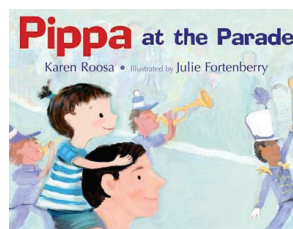
*The Night Before Summer Vacation*  
by Natasha Wing  
and Julie Durrell



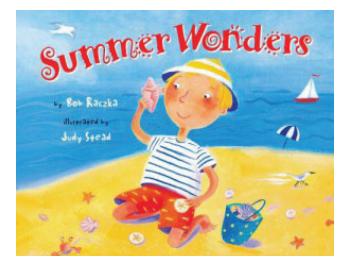
*Independence Day*  
by Rebecca Rissman



*I Love Vacations*  
by Anna Walker



*Pippa at the Parade*  
by Karen Roosa



*Summer Wonders*  
by Bob Raczka