



Mineral
pigments with
children



Beginning with mud

The roadside embankments for collecting pigments, were not accessible to this group of children. So they went out to the garden and looked for some pigment there.

They found some rich brown earth they thought might make some paint if they took all the bits out and ground it finer.



Back in the classroom we sieved it to get rid of the bits of plants and big lumps.

Then we put small quantities in the pestle and mortar and ground the earth finer.



The children were encouraged to mix their 'paint' for themselves.

They put some earth in a small bowl and used droppers to slowly add some water to the mix.

This prevented the mixture from becoming too watery.



The paint was very responsive.

The children tried many different techniques.



I was gifted a small mandala painting. Using it as a reference I drew out a very simple mandala. I mixed up some pigment colors that the education students had collected.



I demonstrated how to get pigment on the brush and paint it onto the cloth.



I then encouraged those who had been watching to try with piment rain.



Working together the children slowly and carefully filled in the image.





Dialogue about use of color and the shapes



Supporting good choices of colors and patterns.

