

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

## **Warming Tray Art**

Recommended for ages 4 – Adult Adult supervision required at all times.



- Warming tray\*
- Aluminum foil
- Finger paint paper
- Crayons
- Hot pad

\*You may be able to find a warming tray at a thrift store or you can also purchase a new one.

## What To Do

- 1. Cover the warming tray with foil (to protect the tray and make clean up easier).
- 2. Plug in warming tray and allow to get warm. If your warming tray has a setting, set to low or medium.
- 3. Lay a piece of finger paint paper on the warming tray
- 4. Use the hot pad to hold a crayon and draw on the paper, switching colors as desired



## The Science

Warming tray art provides a hands-on, concrete method to explore the phases of matter and how temperature can change an object.

## Inquiry

Prior to placing the crayon on the warming tray, talk about what phase of matter the crayon is in. Is it a liquid, solid, or gas? How do you know?

Talk about what might happen if the crayon is heated on a warming tray. What phase of matter will the crayon be when it's heated? Does the crayon move across the paper in the same way it does without the warming tray? What happens if you hold the crayon in one place for a while? Does the crayon remain a solid or does it turn into a liquid? Can you get the crayon to become solid again? How?

This activity is brought to you by the BGSU Child Development Lab