

Art Activity

Glass Marbling



Recycled glass + nail polish = ART!

Emile Gallé was a French artist and designer known for his innovation in the Art Nouveau Movement, popular around the late 19th early 20th century. Gallé applied designs inspired by nature and used lots of vibrant colors in the glass pieces he created. There are some simple contemporary ways to create our own glass artwork inspired by Gallé using everyday materials.

1

SEARCH

Search your home for the suggested materials.

2

CREATE

Get creative with each step and think outside the box.

3

ENJOY

Enjoy your creation and share with others.



McNay Connection

Emile Gallé, Vase
ca. 1900.



McNay Connection

Emile Gallé, Form
Vase ca. 1900.

Suggested materials:

- nail polish
- large container (not used for food, preferably recycled)
- water
- glass object (I used a recycled jar that I cleaned and dried well)

Instructions:

1. Fill your container about halfway with water. There needs to be enough space for your glass object to be submerged halfway underwater. *Tip: I also did this outside where it was well ventilated.
2. Have glass object clean, dry, and at the ready next to the water container. The nail polish dried pretty fast (newer nail polish takes longer to dry than an older bottle).
3. Unscrew the top of the polish, set the brush aside, and carefully drop some polish near the surface of the water. If you drop it from too high, the polish will fall to the bottom. *Tip: make sure the water is fairly still with no splashing and without too much movement.
4. You should see the pattern emerge pretty quickly as the polish spreads over the surface of the water. It will be like a thin colorful coating of paint on the water surface.
5. Take your glass object, tilt sideways and carefully begin to submerge it in the water. Slowly rotate and move the glass to "pick up" the polish enamel onto the glass surface. Remove from the water once you're satisfied with the result. The enamel should stick immediately to the glass object.
6. Set your freshly coated glass object upside down on a piece of paper, paper plate, or your porch/ patio to dry for about an hour. If you wish to add or layer other colors, repeat steps 1-5! You also have the option clear coat the outside of the marbled object once the design is complete.



Adding a second color:

