



## Berry Water Colors



You may have heard the poem “Roses are red, violets are blue, sugar is sweet, and so are you.” Roses don’t have to be red and violets can be anything but blue. You can make watercolor paint with berries you find or buy at the store. Using strawberries, blueberries, raspberries and so many more, you can make different colors, and try mixing two kinds together to make a new color! As you read in this Ag Mag, scientists are making flowers in new colors everyday. Now it’s your turn to be the scientist and artist. Talk about different flowers that are grown in nurseries. Pick your favorites, and make a beautiful bouquet by painting them with your berry water colors.

### Materials Needed:

- Newspaper
  - Apron
  - Black magic marker or pen
  - Watercolor art paper
  - ½ cup fresh berries, or frozen ones that have been thawed for each color of paint. (softer berries work best (strawberries, blueberries, or raspberries.)
  - ¼ cup of water for each type of berry
  - potato masher or fork
  - Small bowl
  - Small strainer
  - Clean paintbrush
  - Water
  - One small plastic container for each type of berry used
1. Cover your work area with the newspaper and put on the apron.
  2. Using the magic marker or pen, draw a picture on the watercolor art paper. Set it aside to dry.
  3. Put ½ cup of one type of berries into the bowl and add ¼ cup water.
  4. Mash with the potato masher until everything is juicy.
  5. Set the strainer across the top of the tub. Strain the juice through it and into the tub. This is the berry watercolor.
  6. Repeat the water, mashing and straining steps with the other types of berries.
  7. Dip the paintbrush into one of the berry colors and brush it across a part of your picture.
  8. Then, rinse the paintbrush in the water and try another watercolor.
  9. When you are finished painting, let your picture dry.
  10. Throw away any extra water colors.